

Fatal Prudence,
OR,
DEMOCRATES;
THE
Unfortunate Heroe.
A Novell.

Translated out of French.



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(1)

Fatall Prudence,
OR,
DEMOCRATES,
THE
Unfortunate Heroe.

A Novell.

THe Unfortunate Heroe of
this History, having
through many considera-
ble services merited the
good Graces of his *King*, and see-
ing himself honour'd with his fa-
vour, and being possess'd of a very
large estate by his liberalities, de-
scended a while to make some re-
flection within himself of that
glorious Rank and Eminence he
was in at Court by his Prince,
and to examine to what those of
his quality were expos'd. He

B

look'd

look'd on the favour he had, not as those use to do who are yet in prosperity, he had better eyes then your generality of favourites, who know not that it is deceitful, but when they can no longer keep it from destroying them. He saw very well that it was inconstant, and that he ought to mistrust it, that it expos'd to all the dangers imaginable those whom it raises to the highest dignity and honours, and that in giving them riches and credit, it makes their best friends become their Emulators, and renders all those inferiour to them enviously jealous of their glory and happiness. The consideration of all these things made *Democrates* (for so was this unfortunate Heroe call'd) resolv'd to take a very strict care of his least accounts, and of all his words: that so he might not raise
to

to himself any enemies, nor give those, whom the noise of his fortune might make malicious, any occasion of becoming prejudiciall to him, though they should daily watch for an Opportunity to be so; nor to undertake any thing which he had not very well examined, and to follow the Directions of prudence, when those that were equal to him never did consult it.

He had scarce made this resolution, but the Duke *Nitanor*, brother to the King his Master, desir'd him to assist him in his Love, and acquainted him with the design he had to marry *Fulciana*, a Lady that was one of the greatest beauties that shone in the Kingdome, and daughter to one of the first Officers of the Crown, but whom he could not marry without blemishing his quality, because she had not received so

many advantages from fortune as to place her in the number of Princesses, as she had from Nature, which had made her one of the Charming beauties in the world. This confidence gave *Democrates* a very great trouble, for he well knew prudence sometimes was altogether unprofitable, in that it could not give happy Councells. But yet, after he had sufficiently consulted what he ought to do, he thought that to oblige at once both the King his Master, and the Duke *Nicanor*, it was his duty to dissuade the Prince from a design that would be a disreputation to his glory, & contrary to the esteem that all persons, even the highest dignified of the Kingdome, had conceiv'd of him. He told him therefore, he thought he should not deserve the honour he did him, if he should disguise his sentiments

sentiments to him, whereupon he represented to him in terms that were as pressing as respectfull, all that might oblige him to leave off such a design, and that he could not marry *Fulciana* without lessening himself extremely, and without betraying his quality, and lowering that great reputation he had acquir'd. The Prince, after he had heard all his reasons, did as most Lovers use to do when they are perswaded of the truth of what is told them, that is to say, approve them fighting, and told *Democrates* he was not then in a condition to hearken to his counsellors, because it was not in his power to follow them.

A little after the King hearing of the Amours of his Brother, and fearing he would make an alliance so prejudicial to his quality, told *Democrates*, that as he

had always assum'd the care of his fortune, so he would also take upon him that of his marriage, and give him still new accessions with the beautifull *Fulciana*, though *Democrates* had not as yet ingag'd his heart to any, and had beheld in that person all he was able to desire, yet the resolution of the King to marry him gave him a very sensible affliction; because the Duke *Nicanor*, who was passionately fir'd with the same charms, had made a Discovery of his Love to him, and also desir'd him to serve him in it. He endeavour'd neverthelesse to conceal from the King's eyes the surprise that that discourse was the occasion of to him, and after he had return'd him his acknowledgments for all the favours and kindness he for him, and testified to him that he was ready to do all he should command him,
he

he made him to foresee that he had no mind to marry *Fulciana*, but through obedience; and that he had not yet any design to dispose of himself, nor any inclination for that fair one; the King, who was firmly resolv'd upon that marriage, did not seem to apprehend any thing of what *Democrates* would fain have had him understood, and told him he was glad to see him in the resolution of obliging him. *Democrates* went away from him very much troubled, and was musing all the rest of the day, and all the night, about the means to keep himself in the good graces of the King, and in those of the Duke *Nicanor*; but Prudence not having furnish'd him with any, or at least having given him but very weak ones, he went the next day betimes to wait upon the Duke, who no sooner perceiv'd

The Unfortunate

him coming into his chamber,
but he lookt upon him with eyes
full of threatning, and told him
in a very disdainful manner, and
which shew'd a great deal of
scorn, 'I do not any longer won-
'der, why you were able to per-
'swade me not to marry *Fulciana*,
'a Rivall ought not to give any
'other Councels to his Rival ;
'but you ought to regard your
'difference that is betwixt us, not
'to abuse my confidence, to sacri-
'fice all your flame to me, and
'not to demand of the King the
'object of my vows, and that of
'my earnest desires. You may,
'added he, with a look capable
'to make a heart of the greatest
'assurance and resolution trem-
'ble, press on this marriage if
'you are weary of living ; but let
'heaven be my witness, you
'shall sooner be in the arms of
'death, then in those of *Fulciana*.
'Death,

' Death, replied *Democrates* to
 ' him, shall not beget any fear in
 ' me in the estate to which I am
 ' reduced, and I do so much the
 ' more earnestly desire it, as I see
 ' it is only that which can deliver
 ' me from the confusion into
 ' which I am cast, by the confi-
 ' dence you have made me of
 ' your Love, and that extream
 ' kindness the King has for me;
 ' since that that confidence makes
 ' me to pass for a traitor, and for
 ' one ungrateful, without having
 ' merited that name; and that
 ' the Bounties of the King, in be-
 ' stowing upon me more then I
 ' desire, makes me to pass for
 ' their Rival, without ever loving
 ' the object of their flame; but to
 ' show you, continued he, that
 ' all I say is true, if you can finde
 ' out any means to prevent my
 ' marrying of *Fulciana*, and keep
 ' the King from being displeas'd

‘with me for it, I protest to you
‘I’ll subscribe to whatever you
‘are pleas’d to have me, and I
‘will likewise, to assist you, do
‘all that ever I am able, without
‘appearing ungrateful to the
‘Kings bounties, and rebellious
‘to his commands. This dis-
course, far from giving the Duke
Nicanor any Joy, only serv’d to
increase the trouble he had in his
breast; he knew very well that a
Rival was not all he had to fear,
and that the King having heard
of his passion, did not press *De-
mocrates* to marry *Fulciana*, but
only to prevent his marrying of
her; this consideration made him
almost immoveable; fear and
grief took possession of his soul,
and for some time kept him from
speaking; but after his grief had
lost a little of its violence, and he
was somewhat come to himself,
he told *Democrates*, he would
think

think upon what he had said, and that on his side nothing should be spared to make things succeed according to his desires. *Democrates* being retired, the Duke opened his breast again to grief, and was buried in a profound studie, which he got not out of till he had light upon a way to divert the blow which threatned him. He resolv'd with himself, the more easily to attain the end of his design, to remove *Democrates* from the high place he held in the King's affection, and therein to follow the examples of all great men, who sacrifice to their interests all those who serve them, and who little are troubled for the misfortunes that befall them, so they can but have what they desire: this made our despairing Lover go and tell the King that *Democrates* proclaim'd openly that he had more hatred then

then Love for *Fulciana*, that he had rather lose his favour, than marry her, that he knew how to turn aside the stroke, and that it was more then he could do, to make him buy, at the expence of his heart, the bounties he had received from him; and that his services having merited those rewards, it was not just that he should buy them over again, or rather sacrifice himself to conserve 'em; the King did so much the more readily believe this discourse, as he began to remember that *Democrates* had made him foresee he would not marry *Fulciana*, but only in obedience to him, which so incensed him, that a little more would have made him been immediately arrested. After the Duke *Nicanor* had perswaded the King his brother what he had a minde to make him believe, *Fulciana*, the
Father

Father of his Mistress, who joyn'd with him in the intrigue, came by his order to speak to the King, and to conjure him not to give his daughter to a man, who only had a scorn & an aversion for her; he would with all his heart most readily have consented to this match, if the heart of *Democrates* had been dispos'd to it, but that since he discovered by those discourses that he would never have any Love for her, and that he would not marry her but by constraint, he intreated him that he might have the sentiments of a father, and that he might not consent to the unhappiness of a daughter, whom he most tenderly loved. As the King was going to reply to him, *Fulciana* entered to act the personage of the Duke *Nicanor*, her Father and she had resolv'd on beforehand to have her represent. *Fulcian* had no sooner

sooner perceiv'd her , but he feign'd to be much surpriz'd, and ask'd her if she came to stir up the Kings pity, and to divert the misery she was threatn'd with. 'I come, replied she to him, maulger all the aversion I have for *Democrates*, and all the hatred he declares he has for me, to show I can obey the commands of my Prince, and to tell him I am ready to follow his Laws. 'Ah! childe, did *Fulcian* answer her, think upon what you are doing, and do not promise that which you may have cause to repent of, and do not so rashly run to meet your misery. Although I very well know, reply'd she , that I am likely to be the most wretched person in the world, in marrying him whom my Prince would give me, yet I will never relent, that I have obeyed my King: it is a crime to
'refuse..

‘refuse him any thing ; he de-
 ‘mands of me my heart , and it
 ‘is to him that I give it, and not
 ‘to *Democrates*, though I am rea-
 ‘dy to marry him. Ah, Sir ! cry’d
 ‘out *Fulcian*, throwing himself at
 ‘the Kings feet , have pity of a
 ‘childe , who to obey you, has
 ‘none for her self ; and if my
 ‘prayers and tears cannot soften
 ‘you, suffer your self to be over-
 ‘come by her generosity, and con-
 ‘tent your self with her obedi-
 ‘ence.

These Discourses so surpriz’d
 the King , that after he had ad-
 mir’d the power that *Fulciana*
 had over her self, he sent them
 both away without resolving on
 any thing , and told them he
 would advise what to do.

Whilst all these things were
 hapning, the Duke *Nicanor*, whom
 Love had inspir’d with all these
 stratagems and devises, waited
 the

the issue of them with impatience, for he had not made *Fulciana* say, that she was ready to marry *Democrates*, but that so their actions might be the less observ'd, and that there might be no suspicion either of the Love that that fair one had for him, or of the hopes he gave her of marrying her : but at the same time, after such an acknowledgment to prevent the Kings pressing on the marriage which he fear'd, and also that it should not be accomplish'd, he caused the Father of *Fulciana* to oppose it, and to drive things off so long till he had absolutely remov'd *Democrates* from the place he held in the Kings affection, and had made all the world believe that he had a most invincible hatred for *Fulciana*, he hop'd if all these things did not cause the breaking off the match which he fear'd, they would

would at least serve to gain him time; and indeed he did obtain a great deal; for the King testified so much anger against *Democrates*, that it was a long while before he was willing to permit him to come into his presence. On the other side, seeing himself yet but ill confirm'd in his Estates, and *Fulcian* having very great credit, and several considerable friends, he was afraid to provoke him; so that all these things, joyned to the thoughts he had, that since *Fulciana* consented to marry *Democrates*, she was not so much beloved by the Duke his brother as they had been perswading him, troubled him exceedingly, and made it a long time before he could determine any thing. He found he was not likely to get out of the uncertainty and confusion which he perceiv'd himself involv'd in,
if

if he had not resolved to send for *Democrates*, and to discourse with him in private, to see if he could not perswade him to stifle, or at least to conceal the hatred he thought he had for *Eulciana*; but he was extraordinarily surprized to learn from his mouth, that he found himself more disposed to Love then hatred, and that he begged of him not to demand the cause of that coldness and indifference he had shown the first time he had spoken to him of that marriage. That Discourse made the King suspect some part of the truth, and he obliged *Democrates* to tell him the rest, which he thought he might do, without any imprudence, and without loosing the respect he owed to the Duke *Nicanor*, after what he had done for him, the King having learnt all, confessed he had acted prudently, and not being any longer

longer able to doubt of the Love which his Brother had for *Fulciana*, and fearing that that fair one would suffer her self to be vanquished by the charms of ambition, again told *Democrates* that he would have him marry her, and that he would protect him from the fury of his Brother : which he promised, not knowing any means how to turn it off.

The Duke *Nicanor* having learnt this news, sought every where for *Democrates*, to immolate him to his Love, and to his choler ; but not having found him, he resolved to marry *Fulciana* privately, and afterwards to declare his marriage to the King. He communicated that design to *Fulcian*, who seeing by that his Ambition satisfied, told him he might be married without fearing any thing, and if the King resolv'd to make his marriage void,

void, he would then discover to him that he could not bring any into his family who might procure him more considerable advantages than his daughter, and that he had still need of *Fulcian* and his friends.

There wanted no more to oblige the the Duke of *Nicanor* to marry the adorable *Fulciana*, which he did in the presence of several considerable witnesses. In the mean time news was brought to the King of it, who notwithstanding caused her to be sought for, to make her marry *Democritus* in his presence whom she was already married to. For indeed he could not give any belief to the certainty of it, untill it was confirmed to him by the Duke his Brother, who presently came to throw himself at his knees, and to intreat him to consent to his marriage. He told him he knew
very

'very well he was much to blame
 'in that he had done it without
 'his knowledge ; but he had not
 'the power to be Master of his pas-
 'sion, which he had a long time
 'contended with, and that it was
 'impossible for him to resist the
 'violence of his Love, and to deny
 'his hand (where he had sacrific'd
 'his heart) to the most beautiful
 'person in the world : the King
 'repli'd to him, that for a Mistress
 'he could not make choice of one
 'who might be more advantagi-
 'ous to him , and he doubted not
 'but *Fulciana* had that honour ;
 'but that he did not believe she
 'was his wife, and he knew very
 'well that he was too prudent,
 'and had too much Spirit to do so
 'great an injury to his Quality
 'and Eminence. He replied to
 'him, that what he told him was
 'true, and named him all those
 'persons who had seen him mar-
 'ried.

ried. The King stood immovable at this discourse, with despite and choler in his eyes, and especially in his Countenance; but yet he durst not let them break out but lightly, nor go to break off so unequal a marriage; because he saw very well that *Fulcian* having had that temerity to permit it, he had likewise more friends and greater power than he imagined, and that he could not oppose him without raising up against him a party of the most considerable Grandees in the Realm, which was the cause that he pardoned his Brother, and that he agreed to his marriage rather through policy, than out of any satisfaction he received by it.

The choler and despite of the King, (being thus forcibly stifled in him, as that he durst not let it break forth either against the
Duke

Duke his Brother, or against *Fulciana*,) fell upon *Democrates*; he was greatly intraged against him, and blamed his prudence, which he but a little before did so highly value. He told him that he was the cause of the injury his Brother had done to his blood, and so deprived him of his favour, but yet without banishing him the Court, where he afterwards lookt upon him for sometime, but it was with a great deal of indifference.

Democrates, perceiving that he was deprived of the good graces of his Prince, and that he had no favourable place in the minde of the Duke *Nicanor*, because when he had justified himself of what that Duke had said to the King, he had consented to the marriage of *Fulciana*, knew at his own expence, that when misfortune is obstinately resolved to pursue a person,

easily rendred to those who have once lost it, through the good order that those observe, who by their wit and happy addresse have known how to make themselves Masters of it.

Our Heroe who was not wholly satisfied with the reparation that Fortune then did make him, perceiving himself much less employed then when he had been his Princes favourite, and was intrusted with all his secrets, was resolved to try whether the persecutions of Love were any thing pleasanter then those his evil fortune caused him, and gave up himself to be charm'd with the beauties of *Sestiana*, the Daughter of Count *Sestianes*, who was not altogether so happy in point of Estate as he, but who was of as illustrious a Family: Although his passion was very violent, yet as he did nothing but with a great deal

deal of prudence, he was resolved to know before he would declare it, if it were likely to be approved of, and would not make a discovery of his flame, before that his actions, his services, and his regards had made the judication. *Sestianes* began to perceive his love, and wished with all his heart that his tongue would confirm what his eyes did seem to tell him, when her father was solicited for her by a considerable person: *Sestianes* fearing lest he might fall off, gave him his word before he had ever acquainted his daughter with it, and came not to tell her the news till after the marriage was concluded on. This fair one, who began to have some inclinations for *Demotrates*, received it with a very cold indifference; but she always told her father that she was ready to be led by his commands, which

person, prudence, signifies very little, and how profitable soever it is at other times ; one consults it then but in vain. 'Is there any one, says he, (in bewailing himself with his friends at the disgrace that had hapned to him,) to whom prudence can be favourable ; when he is forced to do evil, whatever it is possible for him to do ? and when he runs the same danger in not pursuing its direction ? Those whose lives, fate has determined shall be miserable, and yet who have the Election given them of two or three punishments, have enough to consult of prudence to know what they shall do, and notwithstanding at last they are necessitated to choose one punishment. Fortune has now almost put me into this condition, I could not consent to what the King commanded me, without provoking

provoking the Duke *Nicanor*,
nor consent to what Duke *Ni-*
canor would have me, without
incensing the King; and my un-
happinesse was such, that I did
draw upon my self his anger in
doing nothing.

Five or six moneths were spent
before *Democrates* was restored to
the good graces of his Prince, but
at last the King, considering that
the Marriage of his brother had
been more profitable to him then
he had imagined, and that *Falcian*
had hindred a great many discon-
tented persons from breaking out
into any violences, & had brought
them to their duty and submissi-
on, looked upon this prudent un-
fortunate man with as good an
eye as ever he had done before
his disgrace; but he did not re-
store him to his confidence; he
loved him without making him
his favourite; that place cannot be
easily

easily rendred to those who have once lost it, through the good order that those observe, who by their wit and happy addresse have known how to make themselves Masters of it.

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she looked upon as her duty to do, as much because of the obedience she owed him, as because that *Democrates* had not as yet declared the passion he had for her.

This unhappy Lover whom Prudence had always betrayed, had scarcely learnt this sad and afflictive news, but he came to wait upon *Sestiana* to make a discovery of his love to her; She had no sooner perceived it but she was instantly sensible of so great an emotion, and so violent a grief in her breast, that it was plainly remarkable in her face. *Democrates* on his part appeared so planet-struck, that he could not so much as get one word, which occasioned them a great while to do nothing but keep their eyes fixed upon one another, without having the power to speak a syllable; but at last *Democrates* broke the silence, and after
he

he had eased himself of two or three sighs which lay very heavy upon his soul, and which made the afflicted fair one sufficiently to know the trouble he had in it, he said to her; ‘Is it possible, Madam, that what I have now lately heard is true, and that you are within these few days to be led to the Altar by—— Yes, reported she to him in a little kinde of rage, I am, since you have been willing to permit it: Pardon me, my Lord, replied she immediatly, repenting that she spoke to him in that manner, and do not attribute it to any thing but the terrible transports of grief I have upon my spirit, and which do confound me, that they keep me from thinking either of what I do or say. Ah! Madam, did *Democrates* answer her, flinging himself at her knees, You need not
C 3 ‘longer

‘longer conceal from me, that I
‘should have been the happiest
‘man in the world, if fate which
‘continually is persecuting me,
‘had not fully opposed it; Your
‘eyes and mouth do tell it me;
‘they are witnesses you cannot
‘disavow; do not make them
‘false, for heavens sake, but suf-
‘fer me to feel in all their extent
‘the fatal and yet charming dis-
‘pleasures of learning my happi-
‘ness, when it is impossible for
‘me to enjoy it: They will give
‘me joy and sadness both toge-
‘ther, the former in hearing that
‘I have the glory to be lov’d by
‘so fair and generous a person,
‘and the latter in having known
‘it too late, and in not having soo-
‘ner declar’d my passion to you.
‘Ah, cruel man! replied *Sestiana*
‘to him sighing, why did you no
‘sooner speak of it? or why do
‘you speak of it so late? If you
loved

'loved me, as you say you did, you
 'ought to have loved my repose,
 'and not to deprive me of it, to
 'let me believe that you have ne-
 'ver had any kindenesse for me:
 'The little worth there is in me,
 'replied *Democrates* to her, not
 'rendring my losse considerable,
 'ought not to cause that of your
 'repose; but as my losse is vastly
 'great in losing you, it is only I
 'my self ought to complain, and
 'to repent that I have no sooner
 'discovered my flame to you:
 'From whence did it then pro-
 'ceed, said *Sestiana* to him, that
 'you were so long without spea-
 'king of it? those who demand
 'a heart, answered he her, with-
 'out having merited it by their
 'services, by their love and sub-
 'missions, have been often ill re-
 'ceived; I looked on yours as too
 'considerable to be hazarded; be-
 'sides I was not ignorant that a

‘heart does not sacrifice its self
‘but to the knowledge it hath of
‘the Love of its votary, and not
‘to the demand he shall make of
‘it, and that there is no beauty
‘but refuses it to those who have
‘not merited it by their Love and
‘Services, unless ambition con-
‘strains them to it, or that the
‘grandeur and the illustrious me-
‘rit of those who demand it do
‘oblige them : as likewise we
‘ought not to be esteemed Lo-
‘vers, as soon as we begin our
‘passion; it is time which must
‘acquire that quality, and those
‘who have not discovered that
‘they do with justice possesse it,
‘are much to blame to pretend
‘that they are beloved, because
‘they begin to love. The Love
‘of a beautiful and charming per-
‘son ought not to be the conquest
‘of a Gallants first sigh ; and those
‘who are so vain to believe they
‘could

‘could obtain it before they have
 ‘learnt to love, deserve to meet
 ‘with the highest severity and
 ‘Indignation of the fair One,
 ‘whose heart they are so bold to
 ‘demand. This has been it, con-
 ‘tinued *Democrates*, which made
 ‘me forbear so long to discover
 ‘the ardour with which I burn,
 ‘and as I fear’d provoking you by
 ‘the confession of my Love, I was
 ‘willing to dispose your breast
 ‘to it by dutifull submissions, by
 ‘my assiduities, and by a thousand
 ‘other marks of the most violent
 ‘passion that ever was.

Sestiana could not hear this dis-
 course without dismissing some
 sighs, and when *Democrates*,
 had left of speaking, she told
 him, ‘that since she had mistrust-
 ‘ed his merit, and he had thought
 ‘he could never obtain her heart
 ‘before he had made himself wor-
 ‘thy of it by his services and by

his Love, he ought to have prevented the unhappiness that had befell him, to have demanded her of her father as soon as he had taken up the design of loving her, and afterwards to have endeavour'd by his cares and assiduities to obtain her of her self. Ah! Madam, replied he to her, I was not willing to serve my self that way, but would have obtained your heart of your self alone, and have had you to render it to the proofs of my Love, and not to your duty; without that, I should never have thought to have the glorious advantage of being beloved by so fair and beautiful a person, though possibly you would have consented without any trouble to marry me; I should not have known how to distinguish your Love from your Obedience, but should have always thought you ought

‘ought to hate me, not doubting
 ‘but I should have merited your
 ‘hatred, for having demanded
 ‘you of any other besides your
 ‘self. They continued still some
 time together in disburthening
 themselves of their sighs, and in
 bewailing their unhappiness,
 and when they were taking their
 leaves of one another, *Sestiana* ad-
 vises *Demoerates* to go, and declare
 to her Father the Love he had for
 her, and she desired him at the
 same time not to see her any
 more, if he could obtain no-
 thing from him: this unfortunate
 Lover had no sooner left her, but
 he went to discover his passion to
Sestianes, who told him, that he
 did as much resent the displeasure
 as himself, in that he had not
 sooner declared his passion, but
 now his Daughters marriage was
 too far gone to break it off. *Demo-
 erates*, after this answer that he
 had

had foreseen, return'd as afflicted, as you may imagine, you your selves should be in the like circumstances, and a few days after he had the cruel dissatisfaction to see a person married whom he loved even to adoration, and by whom he was likewise greatly beloved. Then did he repent the time he had lost before he had declared his Love, and then did he a thousand times detest the prudence that had counsell'd him to act in that manner.

Fortune, which till then had still seem'd to repent for all the insultations she had made over our Heroe, and for all the miseries she had procured him, seem'd in this to repent more then ever; since that *Sessiana* became a widow within three months after she was married. The death of her Husband gave *Democrates* a fresh opportunity to make his applications

plications to her. *Sestianes* approved both of his visits, and of the address he made to his Daughter, and there was only a waiting for the expiration of the year of her mourning to celebrate the marriage; when, on a sudden, Fortune, which was resolved to be no longer favourable to this Lover, or rather which had not seem'd to be favourable to him, but to make him the more deeply sensible of the afflictions she was preparing for him, declar'd herself absolutely his enemy.

Affairs were then in this posture, when *Theomedes*, a Prince of the blood, and a near relation of the Kings, received this Letter from one of the Officers of the Army.

To

To Prince

THEOMEDÉS.

BEing now just upon the point of going to be accountable to the Gods for my actions, and seeing my self very near my last moment of life, I thought it was my duty to reveal to you a business that concerns you very much. A few days since one of my acquaintance came to demand of me whether I would joyn in a conspiracy that was contrived against your Life: he would not acquaint me with the names of the confederates, but all that I could draw from him was, that he believed that Democrates was one of the Number, because he was too great a friend to those who had engaged him in it, not to be one, & that it was impossible for him to be wholly unacquainted with it. He was to have come to me two days afterwards, to give me more certain

certain intelligences of it, and to know my resolution, but he was the next day killed in the sedition you know lately happened in this City, which has been the cause that I could not know any thing more of it. You ought after this advise to conserve the days that are so dear to the State.

Poligefne.

Theomedes had no sooner read over this Letter, but he went and carried it to the King, who was greatly surprized to finde the name of *Democrates* in it; but as he could not imagine him to be capable of so great a baseness, he would not make him be arrested, as *Theomedes* demanded, before he had sent to his house who had writ this Letter, to see if no ways were to be found out whereby to get some further discoveries and satisfactions: but those who went thither having found him dead, came

came back without having got any other information, and without having learnt any thing that might deliver them out of the trouble and confusion into which in all probability this Letter was likely to cast I know not how many.

This could not be kept so secret; but that *Democrates* who had great friends, was advertised of it; but as he knew himself innocent, and did not think the King had any suspicion to his disadvantage, nor gave any credit to the Imposture, he would not follow the advice of those who counsell'd him to fly.

Seftianes, who was the Author of this conspiracy, having confusedly learnt this news, and fearing that *Democrates*, who as it was reported, knew the name of the chief of the conspiracy, would discover him, came to see him
without

without examining well what he
 did, as most guilty persons do,
 who lose their Judgement by the
 fear they have upon them, and
 told him, that he had heard he
 would accuse him ; but that
 those who might have told him
 he was guilty (in case he had
 been told so) accused him un-
 justly, and their suspicions were
 not grounded any otherwise
 then in that they knew the
 Prince *Theomedeas* was his Ene-
 my, and hated him mortally,
 which made them believe that,
 to be delivered of so powerfull
 and redoubted an Enemy, and
 who was very prejudicial to
 him at Court, he had resolved
 to be his death.

This Discourse much surpriz-
 ed *Democrates*, he told *Seftianes*
 that he acquainted him with
 things he had never heard of,
 that he did not believe he could
 conceive

ceive so horrible a thought, and
so contrary his glory, and
that never to having known the
Authors, nor the complices of
this conspiracy, nor so much
indeed as that they had conspi-
red it, he nere thought of ac-
cusing him, nor any other: those
words in some measure dissipated
sestianer's fear, and kept him
from flying, as he had proposed
to himself. He went after he had
quitted *Democritus*, to find out his
companions in this conspiracy,
and bid them not be alarm'd,
whatsoever they might hear re-
ported, for he was sure there was
no body knew any thing.

Whilst things went on thus,
they resolved to arrest *Democritus*,
to oblige him to tell what he
knew of this conspiracy. This
unfortunate Heroe learnt this
news without appearing in the
least alarmed at it, and indeed
without

without any change of countenance; and as he relyed much upon his innocence, he went to address himself to his Prince as he was wont to do, which caused him to have the honour of being arrested in the Kings Palace, and conducted to Prison by those Guards. He was kept there two days without having any thing said to him, and on the third he was interrogated, but to no purpose, this unhappy Innocent not being able to discover what he did not know; they shewed him afterwards *Poligesne's* Letter, to see whither that would not surprize him, and make some motion in his face. But he without seeming any whit astonished, answer'd those that shewed it him, that either *Poligesne* was an impostor, or that he who had a mind to have seduced him was one, and as these Judges could not get any other

other answer from him, they went their way, and related nothing to the King and Prince *Theomedes*, but only the resolution of *Democrates*.

When those who came to interrogate him were gone, he made reflections upon the Letter they had showed him, by which he understood that the Author of the conspiracy was of his acquaintance, and one of his friends: he run over in his mind all those he knew, to see if among his friends there was any he could think capable of this baseness, and upon whom he might fasten his suspicions; but not having found any, he remembered what *Sebianes* had come and told him some time before he was taken prisoner, and immediately suspected part of the truth, which greatly troubled him, and gave him cruel inquietudes; for if on one side, he was almost

almost ready to dispair to have any reason to suspect the father of his Mistress of an action so foul and so unworthy. a man of Honour; on the other side he thought himself obliged to tell all he knew, and was perswaded that it was to make himself a criminal, and to wound his honour to keep it undiscovered; yet after he had consulted with himself what he should do, he saw very well that he ought not to accuse a man of the quality of *Sestianes* without any proofs, and upon a simple conjecture, and that if the evil treatments he had received from the Prince *Theomedes* made his Enemies believe it was he who had conspired against him, it was a motive strong enough to make his friends believe that he was suspected unjustly, and that without knowing the truth, would be to draw consequences to his disadvantage.

advantage, absolutely contrary to his glory and injurious to his reputation; wherefore, after he had well consulted prudence, to see what he had best do, it gave him only the advice to be silent, and not to speak of what it was impossible for him to prove, and that which might undoubtedly make him lose the heart of his Mistress: yet possibly had he hearkened lesse to the Counsels of prudence, and had said all he knew, that *Sestianes* astonished, confounded and surprised, as ordinarily most criminals are, when they see they are discovered, would not so well have known how to hide his surprise and trouble, and that his countenance would have discovered his crime; but as he had no proofs, it might be not only to run the hazard of losing the heart of his Mistress, but also be in danger to be looked up-
on

on as an Impostor, for uttering that he could not make out: not but that if *Democrates* had been happy, fortune might have made him prosperous in acting after this manner, but as he proposed to himself that he would follow prudence in all things, and not put any thing to hazard, he ought not to undertake that which might be in the least perilous.

In the mean time whilst that this criminal without a crime, or rather this innocent victim of misfortune, gave himself up wholly to his inquietude, and sought out means to get rid of the doubt that was upon his spirit, *Sestianus* on his part was in a fear and trouble very difficult to be expressed. Sometimes he thought *Democrates* knew his crime, and that the Love he bore his Daughter kept him from speaking of it, sometimes

sometimes he fancied he knew nothing of it, and then again he was perswaded, that he could not be very long Master of his secret, but would be constrain'd to declare it. His mind, being tost about with all these different thoughts, successively gave up itself to fear, grief, torment, and hope, without ever getting it dispossess'd of those wracking Inquietudes, no, not in those very moments wherein he flattered himself that *Democrates* knew not any thing, or if he had acquainted him with all, his love would have kept him from making any discovery.

Though *Sestianes* was still in fear, and his disquiets were great, and though the troubles and cares of *Democrates* were much more smart and pungent, and his griefs by far more sensible, yet all those torments came not near

near the cruel displeasures that *Se-
stiana* resented, and as glory was
a thousand times more dear to her
then her life, and love; it was
only despite that caused all her
sighs, she was more deeply touch-
ed at *Democrates*'s being imprison-
ed, because she had loved him,
then because she did love him,
and she had a most unexpressable
regret that she had suffered a per-
son to get her esteem and tender-
ness whom she Judg'd unworthy
of it, and whom she thought
was guilty of the most shamefull
and horrid baseness in the world.

This generous Person did not re-
semble those who cannot hate the
objects they have loved, and who
cannot see the crimes that Lovers
do commit after they have once
known how to gain their hearts,
but with the eyes of their love;
that is to say, only to excuse
them, she looked not upon the
pretended

pretended crime of *Democrates* with any other eyes then those of her choller, and only aim'd to be reveng'd both of him, and of her self, for that he had been able to constrain her Love; and to make her declare to him the weakness of her heart in bearing him so ardent an affection: wherefore she took up a resolution never to marry him, although he should get out of prison, and be perfectly restored into the Kings favour, unless she should be fully purg'd of that injurious suspicion with which his reputation had been sullied.

Whilst *Sestiana* gave up her self wholly to her despite, *Democrates* was several times interrogated; but he still shew'd an equal assurance and resolution, and the Prince *Theomedes* not doubting but that he had some secret Enemies, took so great a care over himself,

himself, that those who had a design to take away his life, could not finde any favourable opportunity to put their purpose in execution.

The Imprisonment of *Democritus*, who could not be thought guilty of a crime so unworthy of him, and so contrary to the great reputation he had acquired, extremely troubled several of his friends : and, above them all, *Anaxander*, who was a stranger of an Illustrious Family, and whose Name is known throughout a good part of *Europe*. They had made some Voyages together, and had contracted so great a friendship, that I know not how to express it, but in saying, that all the Histories have said of the most strongest friendships in the world cannot equal that which was between them. It had been already a good while that this

stranger had designed to go back into his own Country, and his departure had not been retarded, but through the great affection he bore to *Democrates*, whom he could not then tell how to leave. But yet now he did resolve to go, seeing his friend in prison; but it was only for his service, as you will finde in the sequel.

This generous and faithfull friend made his departure with all the precipitation he could, and went out of the Kingdome without taking his leave of any person, and even without saluting the King, to whom he was very well known; because all these things he thought might be advantageous to him, in the designe he had to serve his friend, and that he might derive from thence such consequences, as should be capable to get that to be believed which he had a mind to perswade.

Democrates's

Democrate's imprisonment began to be the publick discourse both among the great ones, and the common people. All Judgments were divided; and there were different thoughts about this action according to the different inclinations of persons. Some spoke of him as a Notorious Criminal, others maintain'd his innocence, and there were some that could not tell how to think him either one way or other, and knew not what they had best believe, the King himself, and the Prince *Theomedes* began to find themselves under no small trouble and confusion; whilst *Democrates*, though the only person that was accused, and a prisoner, enjoy'd a greater tranquillity then any of e'm, and felt his Soul as serene and calm as ever.

Matters were in this posture, that is to say, no more advanced

then they were the first day of *Democrates's* being taken prisoner, when *Anaxander*, who was at last gone out of the Kingdome, in which his friend was unjustly accused, writ to the King this Letter which, if you please, you may peruse.

To the KING.

I Thought my self obliged to acquaint your Majesty, not to let an Innocent perriish, that I am the Author of that conspiracy you have heard of, which threatens the life of Prince Theomedes, and that the friendship which is between *Democrates* and me, hath made some of the conspiratours believe, that I might have discovered to him the designe I had against the life of that Prince; but I too much loved that dear and generous friend, to ingage him in it. Yet possibly I had
done

done it, if he had not been your subject; but his crime had been too great to set upon the Relations of a King, from whom he had received so many signal favours, this reason oblig'd me to be carefull of his glory, and not to put him into the unworthy, and cruel necessity of betraying, either his King, or his friend. Such an acknowledgment will no doubt surprize you; but my crime is so glorious, that I hope time will discover that only the generous can blacken themselves with the like sin, and that how criminal soever I declare myself to be, posterity will not reproach my glory. As I should be troubled that Prince Thoemedes should lose his life upon any other subject then that for which I had resolv'd to sacrifice him, I would inform him that there are some of your subjects who conspire against him, though I cannot tell by whom they are engaged to it, nor what their motives is that thrust them on.

Anaxander.

D 4

As

As *Anaxander* was indowed both with a great presence of wit, and command of prudence; and what had happened, concluded him from doubting that Prince *Theomedes* had secret Enemies, and that they did conspire against him, he gave him that information that so the confession of a crime which he had not committed, should not make the guilty believe that they were in any safety, and likewise that this Prince should not expose himself to their fury.

I will leave you to Judge of the Kings surpris, and of the astonishment of Prince *Theomedes*, as soon as they had read *Anaxanders* Letter. They were along time, both of them, without knowing either what they ought to do, or even believe; but at last the King, who had not yet stifled in his breast all the sentiments of esteem
he

he had formerly had for *Democrates*, was of opinion that he might believe that Letter, and that which confirm'd it in his thoughts was the remembrance of that precipitation that *Anaxander* had made to be gone, and that he seem'd to glory in his crime, in saying, that posterity would not reproach his glory; and the agreement he found of this Letter to that of *Poligesne's*, who had written that he was not assured of *Democrates's* being joined in the conspiracy; but that he believ'd he might possibly know of it, because one of his friends was the Author of it.

As we live in an age where invention reigns, and where experience discovers dayly that it is not in the power of Kings to hinder a prisoner from knowing all that passes, either for, or against him, the friends of *Democrates*

soon got him to be informed of all that *Amaxander* had writ in his favour; they also got convey'd a copy of the Letter he had sent to the King, in his justification. This Letter gave our illustrious prisoner as great a trouble and intanglement, as it had done the King, and Prince *Theomedes*; he could not perswade himself that a person so generous, and the very bottom of whose soul he thought he knew, could be capable of such a crime, and the more he considered him either as innocent, or guilty, he was resolv'd to save his life, the more that generosity made him doubt that he was guilty.

He had not been many moments in that reflection, but he quitted it to fix upon another. 'If *Amaxander* said he, in himself, was innocent, he would have found out some way to let me understand

‘understand that he did not ac-
 ‘cuse himself, but to save me my
 ‘honour, and perhaps my life;
 ‘and would not have expos’d me
 ‘to the hard Necessity of doubt-
 ‘ing of his Innocence, in a time,
 ‘wherein he would possibly have
 ‘divulged mine at the expence of
 ‘his glory. He was a long while
 in this cruel uncertainty, but at
 last whatever ground he had to
 doubt, he could not be perswaded
 that so perfect a friend could pos-
 sibly be guilty.

Though *Democrates* had a deal
 of prudence, and a very piercing
 wit, he had his imagination fill’d
 with too many different thoughts,
 to present at once before him, the
 prudence which *Anaxander* had
 made use of in this emergency.
 For that generous friend had not
 a mind, for several considerable
 reasons, to let him know the
 truth of what he writ to the King,
 he

he apprehended that he should not finde out a person that would be faithful enough to acquaint him with it *viva voce*, or if he should write to him, there might be a great deal of difficulty to get that Letter come safe into his hands without any surprise. But yet these were not the principal reasons which obliged him not to discover to *Democrates*, that he was innocent, and only did declare himself the contrary to serve him, he had a more powerful reason then all those, and as he knew the generosity of that illustrious unfortunate man, he did apprehend, that if he did know the truth he would discover it, and avow that his friend did only render himself criminal to serve him. *Democrates* learn'd all that pass'd, but yet these Intelligences could not dissipate his fears, and smooth his
his

his breast into a calm, he knew very well that that had not altered the state of things, he saw well that if *Democrates* knew he was a criminal, it was still in his power to declare him so, and as he was the Author of the conspiracy, he knew better then any person that *Anaxander* could not make himself guilty but out of generosity, and to save his friend; and he also did much doubt of the reasons which had induc'd him to give that advice, that he had put at the end of his Letter to the Prince *Theomedes*.

The King, who as I have already told you, began to retrieve his esteem for our Heroe, and who was of opinion that *Anaxanders* Letter might be relied upon, after he had made *Theomedes* to consent to it, who was the most interested in this affair, declared that *Democrates* was innocent, and gave

gave order he should be let out of prison.

This generous unfortunate person was no sooner set at liberty, but he went to throw himself at the King's feet. 'I know *Seignior*,
'said he to him, how dear the liberty which I now receive, has
'cost the glory of the most perfect
'friend that ever was: that too obliging *Anaxander* has not made
'himself guilty but to make me
'innocent, all his crime is my
'unhappiness he has thought he
'ought to give me at the expence
'of his reputation, those illustrious & almost incredible marks of
'his friendship, but too disadvantageous for himself; since they make
'him lose the esteem he had acquired among men: I will resume my fetters to render him
'back his glory and his innocence, mine will be powerfull
enough to free me from 'em, or if
in

'in spight of all its power I am
 'constrain'd to perish, I shall not
 'have the sensible and cruell dis-
 'pleasure of living, and of know-
 'ing my self the cause of a crime
 'which will be unjustly imputed
 'to the most virtuous of all men.
 You deserve, replied the King to
 'him, amaz'd at this discourse,
 'to have chains put on you far
 'more heavy then those you now
 'have quitted, not so much for
 'the crime of which you are pos-
 'sibly too justly suspected, as for
 'the trouble and confusion you
 'endeavour to throw into the
 'breast of a King, who does all
 'he can to defend you from those
 'perils you are threatned with:
 'I cannot secure you from them
 'with justice, but in finding an-
 'other guilty who justifies you;
 'and yet when I have found him
 'you implore your Rhetorick to
 'perswade me that he is inno-
 'cent,

cent, and do all you can to de-
stroy what I have been hitherto
doing for you. Cease, ungrate-
ful, your opposition to my boun-
ties, and if you will not do it,
because I desire it, do it then ei-
ther out of pity to your self, or
from the obedience you owe me,
and do not give me the regret of
making him perish, who has
been heretofore honoured with
my Confidence : Though you
should believe *Anaxander* is in-
nocent, yet receive the testimo-
nies of that friendship he gives
you, and do not publish that he
is not guilty, but leave it to time
to justify him ; it renders justice
to all the world, it does not suf-
fer it self to be corrupted but of-
ten times brings to light the in-
nocence of those who have been
thought culpable, and the crimes
of those who pass not only for
innocent but likewise for most
virtu-

“virtuous. Think upon what I
“say, and take you heed of pulling
“down my anger upon you, which
“should be so much the more vi-
“olent as you shall have forc’d it
“to break out.

The King said no more to him
but left *Democrates* in an inquiet-
tude and perplexity, from which
he found it very painful to relieve
himself.

He was hardly got to his own
house, but he complain’d of for-
tune, which had too dearly sold
him the liberty he had then so
lately received; insomuch that
he did as earnestly desire as ever
he had done, to be sent back into
the prison from which he was but
newly delivered; and also com-
plain’d of the Kings favours to
him, which he then found too
cruel: “What, said he to himself,
“in reflecting upon what that
“Prince had told him, ought I to
“suffer

‘suffer so faithful a friend as *Alexander*, who gives me such powerfull and generous marks of his friendship, to lose for my sake the reputation he has gotten in the world? ought I to suffer his name to be dishonoured, and posterity to doubt of his Innocence? but on the other side, ought I to oppose the commands of my Prince? ought I to deny him that which he requires of me? ought I to despise his bounties, and cause a moment of inquietude to a King who hath so much loved me, and from whom I have received so many signal benefits? no, no, I owe too much to that Royal Benefactor, I cannot without a crime resist his commands; but though he should have never bestowed any favour on me, he is my Prince, and I am his subject, and in that quality I owe him all Love, and
‘friendship

“friendship ought to give place to
“duty, Subjects owe all to their
“Prince, and we owe him obedi-
“ence preferably to those who
“brought us into the world.

Democrates thus entertain'd his thoughts, when *Sestianes* came to visit him, to congratulate him for the good fortune of being set at liberty. After he had payd his compliments, *Democrates* told him what had taken up his imagination before his arrival, and the scruple he had to suffer it to be thought that so perfect a friend as *Anaxander* was should be capable of the most base and infamous of all crimes, and the most unworthy the title of a gallant or generous man.

Sestianes, who fearing lest he should be discovered, had wished with all his soul they had never spoke of this conspiracy, and that *Anaxander* who was absent had still

still been thought culpable, answered him, that if that friend was criminal; he ought not to have that scruple, and that he was extreamly too blame to conserve it if he was not. 'The generous, 'added he, always receive a great 'deal of renown from their famous actions; *Alexander*, in doing what he has done for you, 'hath labour'd more for his own 'glory then for yours; that interested generous person in saving your life, and in restoring 'the honour of it to you, puts you 'but in the condition you were 'before suspected; but what 'does he not do for himself? since 'by it he obtains the immortal & 'glorious happiness of passing in 'the ages to come for a grand example of friendship, since he will 'have the glory of having been 'the most generous man in the 'world, and of having done the
'most

'most remarkable action that ever
 'was, and which will make his
 'memory live, and posterity speak
 'of him with admiration and E-
 'logies: do not you put so many
 'obstacles, pursued he, to so ma-
 'many glorious advantages that
 'he would presently purchase at
 'the expence of a little honour,
 'which he will only lose for a
 'time, and which will be resto-
 'red to him with much more lu-
 'stre then it will be lost with ig-
 'nomy; this is the fruit he ex-
 'pects from the service that he
 'shall have rendred you, and this
 'is that which he will gain in
 'serving of you, if you do not op-
 'pose it: Do not speak any more
 'of crime or guilty, and let the re-
 'membrance thereof for a time lie
 'dead, since that otherwise *Anax-*
 '*ander* could not acquire the glo-
 'ry he aims at from so generous an
 'action, and that it would be said
 'he

‘he is of intelligence with you,
‘and that you are resolved to ren-
‘der that to him which he lends
‘you in the same time he gives it
‘to you. *Democrates* answered *Ses-
‘tianes*, that all those reasons
‘could not satisfy the scruple he
‘had in him, that posterity did
‘not always do justice, and that
‘very often it was misinform’d of
‘the truth; that it made him al-
‘most despair to see the glory of
‘his friend hazarded for ever,
‘whilst that the truly guilty liv’d
‘in safety; he brought out those
words with an air that made *Ses-
‘tianes* believe he intended them to
be spoke to him, which was the
cause that he did what we shall
tell you in the succession of this
History.

As soon as *Sestianes* was de-
parted, *Democrates* went to see his
Mistress, whom he found all a-
lone; he went to cast himself
down

down at her feet, but *Sestiana* prevented his doing it, and told him with a great deal of fierceness and scorn, that after what had befall him she could no longer hearken to his sighs without wounding her glory, nor suffer a criminal to entertain her with his passion. Ah! Madam, replied *Democrates* to her, with an air extream full of respect, and as sorrowful as passionate, if all the wretched are Criminals, I avow to you I am the most guilty of all men, since I am the most unfortunate, but yet not so much, for having been unjustly suspected of the most shameful baseness imaginable, but because I have no longer the glorious advantage of being beloved by the most beautiful and most equitable person in the earth: Since you believe me equitable, answered *Sestiana* to him, you ought not to complain

plain of me. I see plainly, re-
ply'd that unfortunate Lover to
her, that though to this present
I always thought my self to be in-
nocent, that I had never brought
any reproach to my glory, and
that also now, I do not know
my crime, yet I must needs be a
grand Criminal, since you doubt
of my Innocence. I doubt it with
Justice, reported to him the
provoked fair one, and if what
Anaxander has written in your fa-
vour was sufficient to get you out
of prison, and to restore you
your life, it is not sufficient to
render you your honour, nor is
it enough to make me believe
that I should not love in you a
man blasted with a most hatefull
crime; it is not enough to hinder
me from doubting your inno-
cence, and it is not enough for
my satisfaction, for my repose,
and for my glory. Ah! where-
fore

'fore have I ever seen you?
 'wherefore have you discovered
 'your flames to me? wherefore
 'have I loved you? wherefore
 'have you been able to constrain
 'me in spite of my self to show
 'you my tenderest affections;
 'wherefore have you put me in a
 'capacity of regretting all my life
 'the love I have born you? and
 'wherefore shall I speak it? yes,
 'to punish you for your crime, to
 'punish you for having known
 'how to constrain me to confess
 'my Love to you, and to make you
 'suffer if you still love me; where-
 'fore—but whence is it that my
 'heart cannot speak it without
 'sighing, wherefore base man?
 'wherefore notwithstanding all
 'my despite, have I still more love
 'for you then I ought to have.
 'Though I read in your counte-
 'nance that this discourse is not
 'displeasing to you, pursued she,
 E with

with eyes inflamed with dispite,
with love, and rage, and that
you meet with nothing in it to
punish you, yet know, that this
new confession of my flame ought
to make you suffer more then you
imagine, if you loved me truly;
since there is nothing in the
world can oblige me to give you
my hand, before your innocence
be so fully justified, that I shall
have no further room to doubt of
it; for in a word, continued she,
though you be pardoned, yet
you are not sufficiently justified.
When one has once lost one's ho-
nour, it is not so easily recovered;
and there is need of more con-
vincing proofs then what a friend
writes, who would gladly sacri-
fice his glory to the friendship he
has for you, and who possibly
would speak otherwise, if he
once saw himself charged with
slanders.

This

This discourse gave *Democrates* both a sensible affliction; and as sensible a joy; for if on the one side he was even ravished to learn that *Seffiana* had loved him always, and to see that notwithstanding all her despite she had not the power to conceal her love from him; on the other side he resented a most incredible grief to see himself not in a condition to possess her, nor that he knew any ways in the world how to justify his innocence so fully, that it might be impossible for his fair and beautiful Mistress to be able to doubt of it. These thoughts for some time took up his minde, and occasioned him for some moments not to answer her; but at last he broke off his silence, and said to her, 'I do not know any thing, Madam, that can better prove my innocence to you, and that can better make it known to all the
E 2 'world,

world, then the passion I have for you, and which I have been so hardy as to declare to you. A heart that had found it self-culpable, would not have had a sufficient assurance to give you the marks of his flame, and to demand of you the permission and honour to sigh for you; it would not have dared to adde this crime to that which it would have been sullied with, and it would have apprehended that your wit and your eyes which penetrate all things, and which have a particular power of discerning, would quickly have found out both its crime and its most secret sentiments. Do not endeavour, interrupted *Sestiana*, to seduce my dispute by this flattering discourse, and if you will oblige me, let me alone to enjoy it till such time that I shall be no longer able to doubt of your innocence.

‘I must then, replied *Demotrates*
 ‘to her, wait (if so be I can do it
 ‘without expiring) till fortune
 ‘which has rendered me guilty,
 ‘makes a discovery of my inno-
 ‘cence; possibly it will labour my
 ‘justification, when I shall least
 ‘think of it, in the same manner
 ‘as it has laboured to eclipse my
 ‘glory, when I as little suspected
 ‘it. As this inconstant Deity of-
 ‘ten makes persons guilty, that so
 ‘she may divert her self with the
 ‘trouble and confusion into
 ‘which she casts them, she is also
 ‘pleased to restore them their in-
 ‘nocence, when they believe their
 ‘virtue shall never be known, and
 ‘when they despair to see them-
 ‘selves again in the same degree
 ‘of honour as they were before
 ‘they had the unhappiness to be
 ‘attacked by that fitting good-
 ‘ness. This time will come, Ma-
 ‘dam, and you will know then

‘that I am not altogether unwor-
‘thy of the Love you bear me, Ah!
‘why is not this time come alrea-
‘dy, cried *Sestiana* to her self, do
‘not you imagine, replied she im-
‘mediately, that Love makes me
‘speak in this manner, it is my
‘glory only that takes up all my
‘thoughts, and all that is capable
‘of securing it, so sensibly touch-
‘es me, that none ought to ad-
‘mire I show so much of ardour,
‘when there is something told me
‘that may serve either to re-esta-
‘blish it, or bring an accession to
‘it. But, Madam, did *Democritus*
‘answer her, if by the justifying
‘of my innocence, I could ren-
‘der you the glory which you
‘have lost, because you have lo-
‘ved me, shall not your love be
‘satisfied, and shall not this justi-
‘fication be also as sensible to it
‘as to your glory? Be you the judge
‘of it, repeated *Sestiana* to him,
‘by

‘ the tenderneſs you know I have
 ‘ for you, and do not demand any
 ‘ thing more of me. They were
 yet ſome time together, during
 which *Democrates* knew, that if
 that fair one had any great love
 for him, ſhe had yet a greater af-
 cendant over her ſpirit, and that
 it would be impoſſible for him to
 obtain her hand, before he ſhould
 purge himſelf of the pretended
 crime with which ſhe thought
 he might be yet ſuſpected.

◦ *Democrates* was ſcarcely gone
 from *Seſtiana*, but he was think-
 ing of the means to juſtify himſelf
 in that manner as the fair one de-
 manded ; but the more he was
 muſing on ‘em, the more he found
 himſelf perplexed, for he began to
 believe that *Seſtianus* was the true
 criminal, and the Council that he
 had given him, to believe that
Anaxander was guilty, and to ex-
 tinguish the remembrance of a

crime whereof it was almost impossible to discover the Author, added to what he had told him just before he was taken prisoner, confirmed him in that thought, and redoubled the inquietude that tormented him. 'What if I should
' said he, accuse *Sestianes*? what if
' he should confess his crime, and
' by his acknowledgment I should
' be justified? I should then do
' what *Sestiana* requires of me, I
' should likewise make a discovery
' of my innocence, and satisfy
' her glory; but also, as that
' would cause me to do more than
' she demands, I should, in finding
' out the means of making my
' self be beloved, find out those of
' making my self be hated at the
' same time. I should, in finding
' out the means of obtaining her
' hand, find out those of making
' her refuse to give it me, and to
' conclude, I should in finding out
' the

'the means of justifying my self;
 'finde out those of making my self
 'in her esteem guilty of a crime
 'much more odious than this is
 'now lie under the imputation of
 'and such are the rigours and se-
 'verities of fate which is resolute-
 'ly determined to follow me, that
 'I cannot do the one without the
 'other, not pass for innocent be-
 'fore the object to whom I would
 'justify my self, without passing
 'at the same time in her thoughts
 'for ungratefull, cruel, and for
 'much more guilty than I do ap-
 'pear to her at present? After
 'that this afflicted Lover had been
 'for some time entertaining him-
 'self with these sad and lamentable
 'thoughts, and had made all these
 'things be run over in his imagina-
 'tion, he was immovable like a
 'statue for a good considerable
 'time, and stood as it were so bur-
 'ied in his grief, that very scarcely

did he give any sign of life: when he was a little come out of that trouble which the excess of his grief had cast him into, he be-
thought himself on a sudden, that he had found out the secret of getting out of the incertainty and trouble in which he was. 'I must, said he to himself, declare to *Sestiana* all I know, and discover to her all the reasons that persuade me, to believe her father is the Author of the crime of which I am suspected, and demand of her that she will marry me by way of recompence, for having so faithfully kept the secret, and to oblige me to keep it still, and I hope that the silence I have observed for her sake, and the fear she will have of my breaking it, will cause her not to refuse giving me her hand, lest she appear ungratefull towards her Father and me. He had hardly

hardly remain'd a moment in these remarkable & flattering thoughts, but he quitted them to let himself be hurried away by others. 'To act in this manner, said he, 'would be to hazard too much, 'if *Sestiana* should not give any belief to my discourse, she would 'be obliged to have for me an invincible hatred, and far from obtaining it by this way, I should 'for ever lose the place I possess 'in her heart: I ought therefore 'to act with prudence, it is too 'fair a virtue to lose, it will furnish me with other means to attain the end of my desires; and 'as I am sure of the tender affections of that divine beauty which 'causes all my pains, I ought to 'hope that she will have pity of 'my torments, and that time, my 'services, my respects, and my 'innocence will make her at last 'resolve to marry me.

These

These were the flattering hopes; wherewith *Democrates* buoy'd up himself, and the deference he had for the Councells that prudence gave him; but it ought not to be wondered at, he never remembered that it had always been against him, he forgot the miseries that it had caused him, as soon as ever the danger or the mischief was past, and though it had always proved treacherous to him, he would nevertheless rely upon it, and could not resolve to abandon it.

A little while after he returned to *Sestiana*, whom he found as invincible as before, and who repeated to him only the same things that she had already said; which gave him such a cruel vexation and despite, that he went to tell her Father how obstinately she refused to marry him, and withall to desire him that he would

would consider his promise to him, and to speak to *Sestiana* in his favour. *Sestianes* who had resolved to ruin *Democrates*, and who notwithstanding all the love this passionate Gallant had for his Daughter, did not think himself secure ; because he perswaded himself that he might very well betray a Father-in Law, to reestablish the glory of a friend, to whom he was so greatly obliged ; received him outwardly with the greatest joy imaginable, for he had resolved to be very civil to him untill he should finde a fit opportunity to work his absolute ruin , he promised him to imploy with his Daughter all the authority of a Father, and declared to him that he should be sensible how great his satisfaction was in it by the earnestness of his indeavours to conclude their Marriage. *Democrates* conjured him not to employ

employ all his authority, and not to be intrigued against the object of his most dear and tender desires, and told him, that the love he had for *Sestiana* was too full of respect to desire she should be any whit provoked, or to have her obliged to do any thing with violence. *Sestianus* made answer to him, that he was exceeding glad to finde in him those sentiments, and that he would manage things in such a manner as that both should be satisfied.

After that *Democrates* had given him a thousand thanks, and had conjured him to be as good as his word, he took his leave of him ; but *Sestianus* to continue the part of a dissembling impostor and traitor, that he had accustomed himself to act ; instead of what he had promised to do for him, bid his daughter always to treat him in that manner she had done since that

that he was got out of prison, and forbad her to let him know it was by his order that she treated him so. As that generous person thought her Father acted by the same motives as she did, this discourse did not give her any trouble, and she presently replied to him, that she would obey him so much the more willingly, as that he commanded nothing of her but what she had already resolved to do. A little while after there was presented to *Sestiana* a match more considerable by far then *Democrates* was. This blinde Father, whose ambition was the only engine that moved him in all his actions, immediately bid his Daughter not to reject *Aras*, (for so was this new Lover called) but to keep him up with some small hopes, but yet without letting *Democrates* know it was by his command; which caused *Sestiana* to be very much troubled,

troubled, and which made her know more certainly that she still bore our Heroe a far greater Love than ever she imagined. Yet *Sestiana* began to finde himself in a strange perplexity, for he durst not let his Daughter marry *Aras*, because she was long before promised to *Democrates*, and he was terrible afraid that this affront might provoke him so, as to make him speak all that he thought he knew, sooner then he would have done: and on the other side, he would not give her to *Democrates*, because he was only searching for a favourable occasion to ruin him. - During this inquietude of his, our Heroe who relied upon his word, and upon the Love which *Sestiana* had not been able to conceal from him, began to have his minde now more at ease, and settled in him, without ever in the least foreseeing the new misfortunes.

tunes with which he was threat-
 ned. After he had taken order
 about his Love, he was contriving
 some means not to pass for un-
 gratefull towards *Anaxander*,
 whom he always thought inno-
 cent of the crime of which he had
 accused himself; but not precisely
 knowing the place where he was,
 and not being willing to write to
 him by ordinary ways, he gave a
 letter to one of his own Servants,
 and sent him to look him out,
 where he imagined he was most
 likely to be, and as he did not
 doubt of the fidelity of this Ser-
 vant, from whom he had never
 any thing of a secret, and that he
 would not have *Anaxander* believe
 he had hazarded his reputation to
 save a guilty person, he ordered
 him to assure him from his own
 mouth that he was innocent, and
 to tell him, to prove the truth of
 it to him, that he thought that

Sestianes

Sebastiano was really guilty, and the authour of that conspiracy ; but that he had no minde to accuse him, because of the love he bore to his daughter, and not being willing to trust all this to paper, he only writ five or six lines to this most dear friend, to give him proofs of his health, and to make him see that he enjoyed the liberty which he so frankly had procured him.

As we live in an age where a secret is no longer a virtue, and the things that we would keep the most private and concealed, are in a short time known to those from whom we most desire to have them kept a mystery, it seems *Democritus* was not long without apprehending he had a Rival, and that a favoured one too, not only by the father of his Mistress, but by his Mistress her self; this news was more sensible to him, and
touched

touched him deeper then all the
 outrageous cruelties that fortune
 had till then made him suffer; he
 abandoned himself wholly to his
 grief and rage, he called a thou-
 sand times *Sestiana* faithless, and
Sestianes a traitour, and perfidious,
 and even doubted sometimes if he
 had not best tell all that obliged
 him to believe, that he was the
 authour of the conspiracy which
 had been made against *Theomedes*;
 but as he was too prudent to hear-
 ken to those thoughts that were
 conceived in the heats and trans-
 ports of a first motion, and to fol-
 low the counsels of choler, he
 quickly turned from that designe
 to another, viz. of going to wait
 upon *Sestianes* and his daughter,
 & to reproach them for their per-
 fidiousnesse, and their breach of
 promise; but whether they were
 not within, or else that they would
 not be spoke withal by him, it was
 impos-

impossible for him to have a sight of them.

If the news of *Arce's* love had been a very great affliction to *Democrates*, *Sestianes* was quite despairing when he understood that he had heard of it, because he saw himself thereby obliged to labour his ruine; for his ambition to see his daughter married to *Arce* (who next to the Princes of the bloud, was one of the first of the Kingdom) being joyned to the fear he was in, that *Democrates* would discover him one day, and that likewise after an affront so sensible to his flame, he would declare that he was criminall much sooner then he had or would have done, did powerfully sollicit him to procure his ruine, in what manner soever it might be; but this new misfortune obliged him to take the soonest opportunity he could to do it in; wherefore from
that

that day, after he had commanded his Daughter to treat *Arcas* & *Democrates* with an equal kinde-
 nesse, and to endeavour to keep
 them both to her, until such time
 that he should make known his
 choice to her, he went his way to
 one of his Countrey houses, with
 two or three of those that were of
 the conspiracy against *Theomedes*,
 that so they might contrive a-
 mongst them the means to execute
 the designe he had projected, and
 to discourse together freely, with-
 out being afraid of any ones over-
 hearing them. They were scarce
 got half a league from the Town,
 when they perceived a good way
 off them a man set upon by three
 others; they did what they could
 to relieve him, but the assailants
 who were thieves, seeing them
 coming up directly to them, be-
 took themselves to flight; but the
 rage they were in to see them-
 selves

selves surpris'd, made them give this person whom they had designed to rob, several wounds, so that *Sestianes* and those with him found the poor miserable wretch even without life; when they were got up to him, they searched him immediately to see if they could finde any thing about him which might serve to make him known, but they met with nothing save a Letter which was directed to *Anaxander*, and which was written with *Democrates* his own hand, which made them, after they had anew examined who it might possibly be, to know for certain that it was one of his own servants, (for indeed it was he whom *Democrates* had sent to *Anaxander*.) *Sestianes* had easily got open the Letter, for as it happened, it had been run through with one of the thrusts that the dead body had received, just there where the leaf

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was,

was, so that it was in a manner open of it self: he read it with a great deal of pleasure and satisfaction, because it might make the innocence of our Heroe be called again into question, and because he thought that it might serve him in the designe he had, which caused him to give it those to read who were with him, who told him after they had seen it, that it would be sufficient to shew it to the King and to Prince *Theomedes*, to get *Democrates* be put into fetters again, from which he was but newly released, and to make him be believed that he was guilty. *See* *Flamens* who would have had sure ways to ruin him, at first resisted it, but at last he resolved upon it, seeing he should not expose himself to any danger in doing so, and that he ought not to let slip an occasion that fortune seemed to present to him expressly for his service,

vice, and that which yet was a stronger inducement to him, was, that if by that means he came not to the end of his hopes, it should be in his power in the same manner as before, to execute what he had resolved upon. The matter being thus settled, one of the two who had given this counsel, recalled his word a few moneths after, and said, that they had not well weighed what they did, and that *Sestianus* would be likely to destroy himself, if he went to put in execution what they had projected together; since that *Democrates* seeing himself accused by him whom he knew to be really guilty, would not be able to refrain accusing him in his turn, and to tell all that he knew. That is all that I demand, replied *Sestianus*, and that is the true way to justify myself, and for ever to deprive me of the fear that I have of
being

being discovered. When I shall have accused *Democrates*, and he shall accuse me afterwards, he won't be thought worthy to be believed, nor will any thing he shall say find any credit, for they will cry out, that he speaks so meerly out of rage and matter of revenge, that he would not accuse me but only because I have impeach'd him, and if he had known that I had been a criminal, he would not have tarried so long before he had accused me. All those that would accuse me after this, let them know my crime, or or know it not, will be look'd upon as Impostors, and it will not be hard for me to make it be believed, either that they are friends to *Democrates*, or that they are gained by him; So that that Letter will be doubly profitable to me, for it will both serve me against *Democrates*, and against
F
these

those who shall be apt to accuse me, and it will likewise keep off others from having the confidence to do it, for fear least I turn the crime upon themselves.

This perfidious Man, having confirmed himself in this resolution, so fitly took his time, that he did not give the King this letter but in the presence of Prince *Theomades*, for fear, that if the Prince had not been there by, the effect the King had for *Democritus* had kept him from making him be arrested again, and that he had quite stifled this proof of his crime.

The success of this baseness answered the expectation of him who had been guilty of it: the King after he had learnt how this letter came to be found, and had stand in over, could not refrain shewing it to Prince *Theomades*; because that *Septianus* in giving it

clerk

T

to

to him had said out aloud enough to make the Prince know what it was.

Theomedes having seen the Letter, said without much examining what he had read, he was so highly transported with choler, that *Democrates* having himself giving undisputable proofs of his crime, it was very fit and necessary to have him clapt up again, and that without doubt he would acknowledge then what they could not before get him to confess. The King who thought that demand was just and equitable, immediatly gave orders to have him put anew into prison. He could not but admire as well as *Theomedes* to see *Sestianes* accuse a man that was so neer being his Son-in Law; but he answered, that he ought to sacrifice all things to the Royall blood, and that since *Democrates* was guilty

of so ignominious a crime, he was unworthy to come into his family, that he had lost all the esteem he once had for him, and that he would no longer acknowledge him for a man that aspired to be made happy in the possession of his Daughter.

The unfortunate *Democrates* therefore return'd to his fetters from which he had been but newly released, but he was not long there before they spoke to him about it, for the next day he was sent for to be interrogated, and to see what he had to say for the letter he had written to *Anaxander* which they shewed him; it was contained in these words.

Demo-

DEMOCRATES

to the Generous

ANAXANDER.

TO charge your self with my crime
to free me from my fetters, and
oblige me, to ruine the great repu-
tation you have in the world, and the
esteem that your vertue has gained you
are such signal and valuable favours,
as can never be returned: and I must
acknowledg that I shall be obliged to
you, not only so long as I live, but
even after I am dead, since you have
kept my memory from being stained
with a crime of which you your self
have purged me. I will not say any
more about it, for I believe you are
not ignorant that if nothing can be i-
magined capable to requite such an ob-
ligation, it is impossible to find out
terms that may be sufficient to exprest

it well, wherefore I will content my self to assure you that I am ready to pour out all my blood for the generous Anaxander, to which I owe both my honour and my life.

‘After that Democrates had
‘seen this Letter, he said without
‘ever altering his countenance,
‘that indeed it was writ with his
‘own hand, and that he did not
‘see it could be any ways prejudi-
‘cial to him, nor did it make it e-
‘vident that he was guilty of a
‘crime that had never entered in-
‘to his thoughts; his Judges re-
plied to him that his Letter was
contrary to his words, and that
he affirmed in it, that Anaxander
had charged himself with a crime to
deliver him from his Fetters, and
that he was redevable to him for his
life. They added, that nothing was
able to keep them from believing
such convincing proofs, and that
he

he could not deny what he had
just then affirmed, in confessing
the Letter they had shewn him,
and which was adressed to *Alexander*,
was of his own hand-writing.
They bid him afterward
speak whither he had any thing
to say that might serve for his
justification. *Honour*, replied,
‘this illustrious and generous pri-
soner to them, which is a thou-
sand times more dear to me than
my life, obliges me to answer
you, and if I was not afraid of
losing it in dying, the world
should see me run with joy to
meet my death; since nothing
but that can deliver me from the
insultation of my evil fortune.
I will say then since it is honour,
and not the fear of death, that
would have me defend my self,
that none need to wonder if I
write to *Alexander*, not as to a cri-
minal, but as to the generoudest
person

‘person upon earth, since I never
‘have believed that he was guilty
‘of the crime which he has accu-
‘sed himself of, to deliver me
‘from the danger he saw me
‘threatned withal; but am and
‘shall be always perswaded that
‘his generosity, and the friend-
‘ship he has testified to me, did
‘oblige him to undertake what
‘he has done in my favour. You
‘cannot doubt but that I thought
‘thus as soon as I knew he had im-
‘puted that Crime to himself,
‘when I shall tell you, that I de-
‘clared it to the King, who is a
‘witness you cannot refuse, and
‘whom every body will think,
‘both in duty and justice, you
‘ought to believe. Acknowledg-
‘ing therefore *Anaxander* inno-
‘cent, and that generous friend
‘having declared himself guilty,
‘to discover to me the greatness
‘of his friendship, and to free me
‘from

"from my chains, could I write
 "otherwise to him (without de-
 "serving to be looked on for it as
 "a criminal) then that he had
 "charged himself with my crime
 "in declaring that he was guilty
 "of that which I my self was ac-
 "cused of, since that tho he was
 "innocent and I was so likewise, it
 "is still true that he did take upon
 "himself my crime, since it was
 "that which I was accused of.
 "Ought one afterwards to won-
 "der if I write to him, that *I owe*
 "*him both my honour and my life?*
 "was I not equally in danger, ei-
 "ther as innocent, or as a crimi-
 "nal? have not I the same obliga-
 "tions to him also both ways?
 "and has he not done as much for
 "me, as if it had been impossible
 "to doubt of the crime which was
 "imposed upon me?

When *Demoorates* had ended
 his discourse, his Judges went a-
 way

way very much satisfied with his answer, and made it visible both in their eyes, and countenance, that they approved his reasons. But that did not keep him from complaining of the rigours and injustice of his fate, and to shew more concern and trouble at his imprisonment then he had done the first time he had been taken. 'What said he to himself, seeing 'he was alone, must my prudence 'and my love procure to me so 'sensible an affront? must I be accused by him whom I ought to 'accuse? and must I be in Irons in 'the room of him whom I ought 'to have put there before now? 'tis too much to suffer unjustly, 'let us discover the proofs we 'have of the crime of *Sestianes*, so 'as he has done those he had against us, and if that cannot save 'us, nor is able to work his ruin, 'let us have at least the pleasure 'of

'of accusing him who impeaches
 'us, of making his innocence to
 'be suspected, and of giving him
 'some confusion and trouble as
 'well as he has us. Yes, the lot is
 'cast for it, let us no longer
 'hearken either to love or pru-
 'dence. But what, replied he im-
 'mediately, if I have too long ta-
 'ken their counsels, and if my
 'prudence ruined me, I cannot in
 'this case be imprudent, without
 'doing a far greater injury to my
 'self then prudence has ever done
 'me; since that having let the
 'time be lost of accusing *Sestianus*
 'I cannot now speak against him,
 'without being look'd upon for
 'an impostor, and a wicked
 'wretch, and without giving
 'them to think that it is only re-
 'venge which makes me do so,
 'and that I would not ruin him
 'but because he has been the cause
 'that I am now a prisoner. Ah
 'prudence

‘prudence, cryed he to himself;
‘after he had reflected upon all
‘the misfortunes it had caused
‘him, how dear do you cost me
‘now? wherefore have you hin-
‘dered me from putting into the
‘letter I writ to *Anaxander*, all
‘that I had a mind he should
‘know, and wherefore have you
‘counsel’d me to have him only
‘know it by the mouth of him I
‘sent to him? I do see very well
‘that you resolve I shall have the
‘unprofitable satisfaction not on-
‘ly of having harkned to, but also
‘follow’d your counsels in all
‘things that have happened to me
‘of trouble and vexation, and to
‘console me in my misfortunes;
‘you would have me impute all to
‘Fate, which has put things to
‘such a pass that prudence fails in
‘whatsoever it advises, and pro-
‘duces effects contrary to those it
‘has been wont to do. It is true,
said

'said he, going on talking to him-
 'self in that melancholy way,
 'that since I resolv'd to be govern-
 'ed by prudence in all things, and
 'have learnt to know it, I have
 'perceived that one ought to rely
 'no more upon it then upon for-
 'tune, & whatsoever it has made
 'one undertake for the best, has
 'often proved to be very unhap-
 'py. It is at present so suspected,
 'that those who are directed by it
 'as a guide of their actions, and
 'those who never in the least con-
 'sult it, do equally mistrust it, &
 'both of them, thinking that eve-
 'ry body uses it as a vail to hide
 'other designs then what they
 'make to be visible, apprehend it
 'in another, and are so very fear-
 'ful of it, that they are not sensi-
 'ble of the mischief it does, but
 'when they are past all hopes &
 'opportunity of remedying it.

This Illustrious and Eminent
 ptifoner,

prisoner, who had no other entertainment then that which his sad and troubled thoughts furnished him withal, was three or four days before he knew what to do, either to save himself, or ruin himself; and during this time, he resented all that love, choler, and revenge do make those suffer who are labouring under those 3. cruel passions. He laid before him the perfidiousness of *Sestianus*, whom he began to look upon as the most deceitful and wicked of all men breathing, and he did whatsoever he could to stifle the love he had for his Daughter, but she had too powerful an ascendent in his heart, for him to be able to remove her from it in so short a time, and he made very unprofitable attempts about it; for the more he thought on *Sestianus*, the more her beauty came into his memory, and notwithstanding all
his

his resistance, it gave an accession to the love he had for that charming & generous person, & which he endeavoured to destroy with so little success.

As this Irresolute Lover had his thoughts more upon his love, than his imprisonment, and upon the fetters that *Sestiana* had made him wear, than on those in which his supposed crime retained him, word was brought him from the King, that his prison was open, and he might go out when he pleased. This news, which he did not at all suspect, surprised him exceedingly. He thought the right guilty persons were discovered, and went immediately to be informed of it to one of his relations houses, who had been very serviceable to him the former time when he had been a prisoner, and who since his last misfortune had found a means to let him know

know in his prison, that he would imploy both all his Estate, and all his friends to make him fully convinced of the share he took in his intrests. As *Democrates* was just at his house, he met him coming out to acquaint him with all that had happened; he told him that his Judges, knowing the esteem the King had for him, and being fully perswaded of his Innocence, by the answer he had made them, had declared that they believed him Innocent, and said that tho he should have been a Criminal, yet things were in such a posture that they could not Judge him with any justice. He added, that Prince *Theomedes* having been desired by several persons of quality whom he named to him, to consent to his being set at liberty, that Prince thought himself oblig'd to sollicite for him, for fear of making to himself any more enemies,

in

in seeking, with too great an earnestness and resolution, the ruine of a person whose crime was not averred, and who possibly had never been his enemy. Our Heroe having understood all these things, went to return his acknowledgment to the King for all the favours he had shown him. He likewise thought himself obliged to go and thank Prince *Theomedes*, which he did after he had been to wait upon the King; and the next day he went to visit all those that had interessed themselves in his favour; and after all he sent one of his servants where he suspected *Anaxander* to be, to advertise him of all that had happened; but he gave him no letter, for fear lest fortune which has persecuted him with as much fury as blindness, should invert the proofs of his innocence, to render him guilty.

After

After he had done all that either civility or duty exacted from him, he had a great desire to answer the demands of his love; to give his flame some satisfaction; and to go and see his Mistress; But what *Sestianus* had done to ruin him, made him see so much unworthyness in that visit, that he durst not grant any thing to his love for fear of bringing any blemish to his glory. Never did any Lover see himself in a greater and more cruel perplexity; he would very fain see *Sestiana*, and yet he would not see her; love her, and yet not love her, put her out of his thoughts, and yet keep her in them. What, said he to himself, reflecting upon the miseries that his love did make him suffer, must I love the Daughter of a man, that not only hath desired my ruin, but all whose actions have too much encouraged me

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to

' to believe that he is guilty of the
 ' crime, of which he has made
 ' me twice unjustly suspected?
 ' but what, said he, entertaining
 ' himself still with his thoughts,
 ' if *Sestianes* is base and perfidious,
 ' *Sestiana* is one the most generous
 ' and most vertuous persons in the
 ' world; but how can so much
 ' virtue, and so much baseness be
 ' found in one and the same blood?
 ' noe, noe, I only help to abuse my
 ' self, I fall into the same snares,
 ' that Love sets for me, and that
 ' Tyrant who is resolved to make
 ' me love her, makes me see in
 ' her such vertues as she has not;
 ' since she is the Daughter of *Se-*
 ' *stianes*, she must needs resemble
 ' him, and be perfidious and wick-
 ' ed as he is; but (alas!) though
 ' she be of his blood, she is still one
 ' of the most charming persons in
 ' the creation; the Crime of her
 ' Father has not changed the beau-
 ' tiful

tiful lineaments of her face; she loves me, I ought to love her, since that Love can only be repaid by love. Perhaps I have done her an injury, when the crime of her Father makes me doubt her virtue; it is no new thing to see wicked parents have virtuous children, nor wicked children to have virtuous parents. After he had strengthened himself in this opinion, and had resolutely determined not to banish from his heart the love he had for *Sestiana*, he fully concluded not to recriminate upon *Sestianes*, but to sacrifice his choller, and his resentment to his love. He was no sooner settled in his resolution, but he perceived *Sestianes* coming up to him. That sight awakened again his choller, and notwithstanding the resolution he had taken not to discover his resentments to him.

him, yet he could not refrain uttering these words to him. You
 'ought not said he to him, with
 'so much eagerness to lay hold
 'upon all occasions of ruining
 'me, for fear lest I should accuse
 'you, and I have been secret, I
 'think, for a sufficient time, to
 'oblige you to believe that I could
 'still be so. I do not know, replied *Sestianes* to him, with a
 'look full of disdain, what it is
 'you mean, and if I am guilty of
 'any crime of which I ought to
 'be accused it is only in your fancy ; but I should be too blame to
 'wonder at it, added he, what
 'my duty has obliged me to do
 'against you very likely may not
 'inspire you with any thing to
 'my advantage, but revenge may
 'possibly have made you seek out
 'all ways to ruin me ; but my innocency secures me from all that
 'you can say against me, and those
 persons

persons that are disinterested
will still know, when you speak
after the manner you do now,
that it is only revenge which
makes you capable of ha-
ving any such discourse :
as for my part, continued he,
though I am very sorry I have
lost your friendship, yet I shall
never repent my having done
what I ought for the safety of
the Prince *Theomedes* : we owe
all to persons of his blood, and
in the like occasion, we are o-
bliged to do the same thing for
all the World. Have you that
confidence to speak to me in this
manner, replied *Democrates* to
him, and have you forgot what
you told me some time before I
was taken prisoner, the first time
that I was unjustly suspected ?
whatsoever I might have told
you, reported *Sestianus* to him
with a very great assurance, I
never

'never told you I was a criminal,
 'and if I had been so, and you
 'had known it, I should not
 'have had that presumption to
 'carry to the King the Letter
 'that you wrote to *Alexander*;
 'and as it was by meer accident
 'that I met with it, I could, to
 'serve you, have made it not to
 'be seen, and I had done it, with-
 'out doubt, if my duty had not
 'obliged me to the contrary;
 'howsoever I am extreamly over-
 'joyed, that those great proofs of
 'your crime have not produced
 'against you the fatall effects you
 'could not but expect from them.
 'But as I am not indued with less
 'virtue then my Daughter, I am
 'not willing to have for my Son-
 'in-Law a man who is not clear'd
 'but by favour of the crime, of
 'which possibly with too much
 'justice he may have been suspe-
 'cted. I take my self to be quit of
 'my

‘my promise after what has hap-
‘pened to you, and if you think
‘I treat you too severely, impute
‘it only to your crime, or if you
‘are innocent, impute it then to
‘your misfortune.

Saying these last words he left
Democrates, but in such a condi-
tion that was enough to make the
most hardy to fear, and to stir up
pity in those that are least sensi-
ble. He had a good mind to
break out into the violence of his
rage, and follow *Sestianus*, to make
him repent of his so insolent dis-
course, but the excess of that sad-
ness and grief into which those
injurious words had put him,
rendered him powerless, and
were the cause, that the fire and
rage that was visible in his eyes,
was not able to appear in his acti-
ons. Then did he solemnly swear
that he would never any longer
think of *Sestianus's* charms, and

the hatred he had conceived against the Father, and which had an accession by his discourse, made him in appearance stifle all the love he had for the daughter.

Five or six days past in which *Democrates* did all he could to drive *Sestiana* out of his thoughts, and that fair one all that she could possibly think of, to forget *Democrates*.

In the meantime *Sestianes* who feared nothing from our *Heroe*, frequently saw those that were of the conspiracy with him, and discovered to them that the alarm which had been given the Prince *Theomedes* was the cause that he always went well guarded, and that they must wait, and take up other measures than those they had resolved on. He flattered them with the hopes of a happy success, and made them foresee that if any of them had the confidence to ac-

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cuse

ouse him, he could order it so, that the crime should revert upon him, for he would say that he was bribed by *Democrates*, who according to all appearances, studied to revenge himself of the sensible affront he had given to his honour, in presenting the King with the letter he wrote to *Anaxander*; which had been easie for him, because none of them could give in proofs of his conspiracy, being all engaged only by word.

But though *Sestianes* feared nothing from *Democrates*, yet he resolved not to let a person live who he knew very well would be his mortal enemy, after he had offended him in two such ticklelish points as are honour and love; but as nothing did engage him to precipitate his ruin, he waited till time furnish'd him with a favourable opportunity to set about it with safety, and without fear of
being

being ever discovered: and being as expert in his politicks, as he was treacherous and wicked, he stirred up *Arcas*, in covert words, to kill *Democrates*, telling him that as long as he lived, it was impossible for him to root him out of the heart of his Daughter, and that he would have the dissatisfaction of knowing that she loved another besides himself; which so awakend the Jealousie of this new Gallant, that he narrowly watched the actions of *Sestiana*, to see if after the prohibitions of her Father to love his Rival, and overmore to speak to him, her love would make her finde out any way to come to discourse with him.

Whilst these things were happening, *Democrates* was the most perplexed man in the world. The love that he thought he had for ever driven out of his breast,

had by degrees got in again, and ruled there with so much violence, that he could not finde out any ways to get the mastery of it; which obliged him by all means imaginable to try if he could not possibly speak with *Sestiana* privately, to learn if he was still beloved by her, and to resolve, according as she treated him, whether he should persevere in his Love, or continue the efforts he made, to stifle a flame, which tyrannised in his breast with so absolute an Empire, and which he had several times unprofitably attempted to remove from it.

After he had a good while been contriving how to come to the end of this design, and to entertain the object of his vows with that freedom he desired, he thought it was his best way to intreat the service of one of *Sestiana's* relations, who had always testified

testified to him a very great esteem, and also as great a friendship; and to begg of her to order it so, that this fair one might be one day at her house, that so he might have the happiness of discoursing with her there. *Sestiana* who had an absolute confidence in this person, and who did as earnestly desire to speak with *Democrates*, as *Democrates* did to speak with her, made her the same request, so that this Lady found it no hard matter to give them both a satisfaction: *blow*

The day that these two Lovers were to see one another being come, they each of them resolved, on their parts to resist with all the power they could the tender sentiments that Love inspired into them; and to that end both of them left their lodgings in this resolution, but when they were got together, a very small matter

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would have made them forget what they had resolved upon, and have set them upon new protestations of Love : for though their design was fully to hate one another, and to make their hatred visible by the reciprocal testimonies of it ; yet they were never in a less disposition to do it. But however, *Sestiana*, who had a very great ascendent over herself, and who was resolved to be as good as her intentions, spoke first, and said to *Demetrius*, ‘I would willingly demand a favour of you, which I desire you would grant me in the name of that Love which has reciprocally reigned in both our hearts ; if you still love me, and if you have any kindness for your self, you ought not to deny it me, it being a thing that will re-establish our repose, and keep us from doing that which may be
‘ Shamefull;

'Shamefull to us ; it is a thing
 'that will be profitable to us both,
 'and which will spare us a great
 'many sighs : in a word, it is your
 'hatred ; I do whatsoever I can to
 'give you mine, but I know very
 'well, that without the help of
 'yours all my efforts will signify
 'little. This request added she,
 'looking stedfastly upon him,
 'ought not to give you so great a
 'surprise as I see plainly by your
 'maintenance it does, for I de-
 'mand nothing of you but what
 'is just, you owe me your hatred,
 'and I likewise owe you mine ;
 'you owe me yours, after what
 'my Father has done against you ;
 'and I owe you mine, because
 'you have had the confidence to
 'demand of me my heart, and e-
 'ven to seduce it, yours being
 'stained with a crime which as
 'yet you have not been able to
 'purge your self of, but through
 'the

‘the bounties of the King, and the
‘favours of Prince *Theomedes*.
‘You see by that, continued she,
‘that we cannot love one another
‘without betraying our glory,
‘and not to have a hatred for
‘each other is to wound it, and
‘therefore you ought to grant me
‘yours, for the price of mine. Ah!
‘Madam replied *Democratus* to her
‘with a languishing voice, and
‘an air the most passionate in the
‘world, if there be nothing but
‘my hatred that can draw upon
‘me yours, I am sure you will
‘never hate me as long as you
‘live; you demand that of me
‘which is not in my power, for
‘love and hatred are not volunta-
‘ry things, and if when one has
‘once began either to love or
‘hate, it is impossible any longer
‘to be Master of those two great
‘and violent passions, it is very
‘difficult to kindle them when
‘one

'one has not as yet began to re-
 'sent them. But yet I will avow
 'to you, if that can bring you
 'any satisfaction, that my desires
 'were agreeable to yours, that I
 'have done whatever I could to
 'hate you, and that it has not
 'been possible for me to effect it,
 'any more then it has been for
 'you ; which clearly shows that
 'our hearts do not agree with our
 'desires, that they have given
 'themselves up absolutely to love,
 'and that they have not any place
 'in them to receive hatred. Since
 'you will not hate me, replied
 '*Sestiana* to him, I will be more
 'generous then you, I will begin
 'first to do my duty, and by my
 'example inspire into you those
 'sentiments you ought to have.
 'What, Madam, answered *Demo-*
 '*crates*, can you then resolve to
 'hate me, when you ought to give
 'me the most signal marks of your

“love ? Ah ! let me beseech you
“think of the violence I do to my
“self for your sake, and remember
“that the ardent affection I con-
“serve for you, after those treat-
“ments I have received from your
“father, ought to make you have
“in my favour more pleasant and
“obliging sentiments. That ar-
“dent affection which you con-
“serve for me, after an affront
“which ought to be so sensible to
“you, replied she to him, produ-
“ces more effects than you ima-
“gine, for if it makes me to know
“the greatness and excess of your
“love, it at the same time makes
“me to understand your baseness,
“and if according to the rule,
“which is, that one should return
“love for love, it obliges me to
“have a kindness for you, accor-
“ding then to that other, which
“is, that one should look upon
“the base with contempt, it o-
“bliges,

'bliges me to hate you. Do what-
 'soever you please, replied this
 'unfortunate Lover to her, I will
 'bear all from you without mur-
 'muring, I will respect your
 'choller, I will respect your ha-
 'tred, and in spite of all your
 'contempts, I will conserve for
 'you a love so firm and constant,
 'that there shall be nothing in the
 'world capable to shake it. Well
 'then! answered this Generous
 'Heroin Lover, since you force
 'me to acknowledg a weakness,
 'which shall never be of advan-
 'tage to you, I do love you, I own
 'it, and though I would, yet I
 'cannot oblige my heart to hate
 'you; but in spite of all that
 'love that this perfidious heart
 'will conserve, I am going to
 'marry *Arcas*, to make you know
 'that. Ah! Madam, (inter-
 'rupted the miserable *Domesticks*,
 'whom those words had almost
 'rendered!

rendered immoveable,) what
crime have I committed that can
oblige you to punish me with so
much rigour? hate me rather,
for heav'n's sake, then love me
in this manner. So long as you
shall hate me, I shall hope al-
ways that my love, and my re-
spects may be able one day to
o'come your hatred, and ren-
der me possessor of one of the fai-
rest persons in the world; but
when I shall see you in the arms
of *Arkas*, I shall only hope from
death to derive the end of all
my pains and sufferings. Yet
if you knew, pursued he, fetch-
ing a deep sigh, what I do for
your repose, and if you knew
the tears, and the cruel afflictions
I keep from you, I am sure
you would treat me with less ri-
gour; but whatsoever the evils
that my silence causes me, your
repose is too dear to me not

to

'to prefer it to mine ; I should
 'be afraid I might see you die
 'with regret and grief, and that
 'fear forces me to conceal from
 'you a secret which would cost
 'you too dear. All that I demand
 'of you, continued he, for the
 'reward of a service, which pos-
 'sibly you will never know the
 'greatness of, and which proceeds
 'only from an excess of love and
 'generosity, is that you would
 'not marry *Arcas*. You would
 'then, interrupted *Sestiana*, ob-
 'lige me to pay a service without
 'knowing it, and even without
 'knowing whether it be true that
 'you have rendered me any or-
 'no. Ah ! Madam, cryed *De-*
 '*moerates*, interrupting he in his
 'turn, this service has somewhat
 'so particuler in it, that I cannot
 'render it to you, and discover it
 'to you both together ; the one is
 'incompatible with the other,
 'and

and if I told it you, I should not then render it to you. Since that this secret is of so great importance, replied this charming person to him, I will not oblige you to reveal it, and show my self curious, as the generality of my sex do, for fear my curiosity should be punished, and I should repent my earnestness in pressing you to discover it. This discourse, replied *Democrates* to her, does not surprisè me, I knew long since how much above other women you were, and that you do nothing wherein there is not an extraordinary height of prudence to be observed; but in short, Madam, as this vertue is not repugnant to that which I demand of you, and that it does not oblige you to betray me, let me beseech you to tell me, what it is you would have me to hope for, and
if

'if you are resolved to marry,
 '——Ah! let us not discourse any
 'longer, said the fair Lady inter-
 'rupting him, either of love, or
 'of marriage, do not force me if
 'you love me, to discover my
 'weakness to you and do not con-
 'strain me to betray my virtue.
 'When you were without a Ri-
 'val, I did not finde it so difficult
 'to testify my choller to you; but
 'now I must complain of you in
 'spite of all my resistance; my
 'heart will not let me resolve to
 'hate you, but speaks to me in
 'your favour, and tells me you
 'will cost me not a few tears. I do
 'not know whence this melan-
 'choly foreknowledge proceeds,
 'but I perceive very well that pi-
 'ty does interest it self as much
 'for you, as Love; and indea-
 'vours to stifle all those senti-
 'ments I ought to have to your
 'disadvantage. Do not enquire
 'any

'any further, answered our Heroe, from whence those sentiments of love and pity proceed, that speak to you so much in my favour, my Love and my innocence without doubt are the cause of them, and thereby do advertise you, not to betray in marrying *Aras*, the most faithful and most passionate of all Lovers; because that when you come to be convinced of his innocence, the death you will have brought upon him by your cruel carriage, will oblige you to bestow upon him some tears. The Lady staid till then without pouring out any, but at those very words she could not forbear shedding a few, which she mingled with those sighs that at the same time broke from her, and immediately took her leave of him, not to give him the satisfaction he might have derived from
the

the pleasureableness of a frailty
 which was of so much advantage
 to him: but she told him as she
 was going away, that if she could
 make her duty to agree with her
 Love, she might assure himself
 that she would do whatsoever he
 desired her, and that she would
 never marry *Arcas*, but *Democratus*,
 after he had this answer, return'd
 back again, but not so well satis-
 fied as he would have been, if he
 had had a less knowledge of the
 power that *Sestius* had over her-
 self; for he was sensible that al-
 though this generous person had
 more then an ordinary kindness
 for him, yet she would sacrifice
 her love to her duty, and the o-
 bedience she owed to her Father
 would make her to marry his Ri-
 val, though indeed she had never
 so great an aversion to him.
 As this Lover, whose heart
 was divided between hope and
 fear,

fear, was going to his lodgings, he found an occasion to exercise his valour, for he met with a numerous troop of seditious persons who had conspired the ruin of all the *House Royal*. He put himself in the head of the Soldiers whom the King had sent to seize those Traitors and perfidious subjects, and to punish, by a sudden death, those they could not arrest. *Demetrius* animated them in such a manner by his courage and words, that they wrought miracles by his Example, and brought back five hundred of those seditious fellows prisoners.

The King having heard what was done, received our *Harold* with a tendernefs as you may easily imagine, and the Prince *Theodemus*, who was no less obliged to him then the King, in as much as the conspiracy respected all the *House Royal*, testified to him the particular

esteem he had of his valour.

And whilst love and fortune were treating *Democrates* in a more civil and obliging manner then they had done before for I know not how long, fear began to take a violent possession of the heart of *Sestianus*. He could not tell what was become of one of those who joined with him in the conspiracy against Prince *Theonides*, and as it was he of all the number whom he most mistrusted, his absence gave him so great an inquietude as would be very difficult to express, unless one could be sensible of all that fear produces in the hearts of criminals that are afraid of being discovered.

But as there is nothing can be kept so secret long, as to be a reserve from jealous Lovers, *Arcas*, who had very faithfull spies, was soon informed that *Sestianus* had had

had a long discourse with *Democritus* at one of her cosins houses. He immediately complained to her Father of it, who was glad to hear it, & assured him that for the future he would so order things, as they should not be able to finde out any way for a conversation. He would have made the same complaint to *Sestiana*, but she receiv'd it in such a manner, as made him know that his love & his jealousy were both indifferent to her and that he would find it a hard matter to root out of her breast a Rival who had made himself Master of it, and who had long before obtained her esteem, and had surprized her tenderest affections. There was very little wanting, to make this Lover, who abandoned himself to his despair, lose that respect which is due to so charming a Sex, and to speak like one that is jealous, and a husband, instead

stead of speaking like an inamoured Gallant : and the violence he did himself in retaining his jealous transports, made him go away from this fair and scornful Lady, full of an extraordinary despite, and so furious a jealousy, that as soon as he was got within his own doors, he wrote a challenge to *Democrates*, to oblige him to fight him the next day.

Our Heroe was too generous not to meet at this assignation of honour, and indeed he was first at the place, which *Aras* had appointed. That Rival, whom despite and choller animated, came thither a little after. They were not long before they had their swords in their hands, and were engaged ; and they immediately, by the passes they made, gave one another the mutual marks of their valour, but at last, you must know (without any necessity of my describing

cribing to you the manner of their combat, which I was no eye witness of) that *Arcas* was forced to ask his life of *Democrates*, and to promise him that he would never marry *Sestiana*. Fame quickly spread this news abroad, and *Sestianus* was as much afflicted at it, as his daughter had joy, and the whole Court commended *Democrates*, and esteemed his prudence, in that he had given life to a man of the quality of *Arcas*, and who had in the opinion of all the world, such relations and friends as would most certainly revenge his death.

But whilst hope began to repose the heart of *Democrates*, and likewise he to feel the joy that fortune never gave him but for a few moments, and only to preface new miseries, *Arcas* felt whatsoever rage and despair make those endure who are violently tormented

tormented with them, and a little more would have made him revenge upon himself the injurious and sensible affront that fate had put upon him.

If those two Lovers resented, the one joy, and the other grief, *Sestiana* singly resented both; for if *Democrates*'s victory gave her the former, she was greatly troubled in that she could not see him, nor have the libertie to speak with him, and the assurance that her father gave her, that he would never consent she should marry him, in a great measure allay'd the joy she had at first conceived from the victory of that dear and faithful Lover.

But as misfortune, which never observes any measures in the evils it causes, when it has once begun to make a person feel the rigour of its most cruel and piercing malice, and which was re-
solved

solved that our illustrious and generous Heroe should be exposed to the grievous and terrible severity of its assaults, and that the unfortunate *Democrates* should not long make her waver between joy and sadness; though she was in a condition much more capable to raise pitty, then stir up envy, for the joy she had was so far from causing the effects it was wont to produce, that it only served to make her the more sensible of the unjust and tormenting pains of her destiny; it found that she was still too favourably dealt with, and that her grief ought not to be mixt with any joy at all, nor with any hopes of ever being able to get out of it, nor so much as to see it lessen and decay; and therefore made her know with as much diligence, as those, who thought they brought good news, could inform her, that the faithful

ful and unfortunate *Democrates* had been cruelly assassinated the precedent evening, as he was going from his lodgings to wait upon the Prince, by three men unknown, who after they had given him several mortal wounds, with all the hast they could, betook themselves to their heels for safety, and they proved so successful to them, that those who had pursued them, were not able so much as to learn any news of them.

The generous and faithful Lover of the unfortunate *Democrates* had no sooner heard this sad and fatal truth, but the lively excess of that grief she resented at it, so violently seized upon her, that at first she was not able to complain of her fate for a loss that was so sensible to her; but as soon as the trouble into which this dreadful news had put her, was a little dissipated,

H

sipated,

Epated, and her grief had given her leisure to reflect upon the new calamities that her unhappiness had brought upon her, and to think of the death of a person to whom she had given her heart, she discovered, by her sighs and tears, and by her complaints, that notwithstanding the ardent affection *Arcas* had for her, and the commands that her father had laid upon her to be favourable to it, she had still had a kindness for *Democrates*, and that she did yet love him even after his death.

Though *sestima* was in one of the saddest and deplorable conditions in the world; though her miseries were extream, and one would think that nothing was capable of giving them any accession, yet her cruel destiny, which was not weary of persecuting her, had, in causing the death of *Democrates*, prepared new matter

to

to increase the grief of this illustrious miserable Lady: and to redouble her tears; since that those who confirmed to her the death of her Lover, told her likewise that those Assassines having thought him dead, after they had given him so many wounds, had betook themselves to their heels, and that *Democrates* had also yet so much strength as to speak to those who were come to his relief, and to tell them that the condition in which he was, obliged him to inform the King and Prince *Theomedes* that he believed *Sestianus* was the Author of the conspiracy against the latter of them, and that the Love he had for the divine *Sestiana*, had kept him from making any discovery of it. They also added, that after he had pronounced the name of *Sestiana*, those sighs which Love had made him fetch,

joined to the extream weakness, that the loss of his blood had put him into; for some time had kept him from speaking; but at last he had said with much ado, that he was not fully assured that *Sestiana* was guilty, but that he had very powerfull indications of it, and that Prince *Theomedes* ought only to make use of his words, to constrain him, in case he was a criminal; to discover all himself, after he had got him arrested, or at least but to oblige that Prince to mistrust him, and to take heed that he does not expose himself to the fury of his assaults.

It is impossible to represent well to you the estate of the afflicted *Sestiana*, after she had heard of this new misfortune. Fear, despite, hatred, Love and grief had their several combats in her, from which she never got with any advantage, but the end of them

them was always fatall to her repose. Fear made her apprehend something that would be of very ill consequence to her Father; despite and hatred made her hate him, whom love for all that forced her still to have a kindness for, though he was only fit for his grave; and grief made her bewail him whom she detested. Her sighs were divided between love and Nature, she gave some to the future unhappinels of her Father, and some she bestowed on her Lover, and if she was not to be comforted for the loss of him, those words he uttered dying against her Father, afflicted her yet more. She loved him, bewailed him, and hated him altogether: she hearkned to her duty, she followed the sentiments that love inspired into her, and at the same time gave somewhat too to her despite; but though

She did what she could to content them all, yet her mind was no whit the less quiet nor her afflictions less great and cruel, and grief got absolute mistress of her soul, and tormented it with all the rigor and severity that it is wont to make use of when it has a mind to give a cruel persecution to those whom it undertakes to make most miserable, by putting them into a condition never to be able to enjoy a moment's repose.

Democrates's words at dying were quickly carried to the King, and to Prince *Theomedes*, who were no less surpris'd at them, then at the death of that generous unfortunate man. They were both very hard to believe that *Sestianes* should be guilty, and what he had done outwardly for *Theomedes*, in giving to the King the letter that *Democrates* had writ
to.

to *Anaxander*, kept that Prince from giving any credit to that information against him. But yet as nothing is dearer to us than life, which ought to be kept with the greatest care, he was resolved to let him be arrested if he was to be found, that so he might be the better satisfied of the truth of it, and to see if his looks would not betray him, and if his surprise of finding himself a prisoner would not make him confess a crime of which he was only suspected by force, or make him do what he could to the contrary, give some manifestations of it, & designed at the same time to set him at liberty, if he did not acknowledge any thing, without forcing him by any wrack or torture to declare himself guilty. But it was not the love he had for *Sestianes*, nor any happiness that he wisht him, obliged him to act

after this manner; but what he thought he had done to serve him, in accusing *Democrates*, who was to have been his Son in-Law, had much lessened the severity he would have had towards him, and engaged him to treat him generously, at least until he might have some proofs of the attempt of which he was accused.

Prince *Theomedes* was in this resolution, and had already desired the King to permit *Sestianes* to be arrested, and to go out of prison a little while after, if he should not confess himself a criminal, and if no other more convincing proofs could be alledged against him of his crime then the last words of *Democrates*, which did not positively conclude him guilty, when that *Sestianes* was coming up to them where they were. The King, and Prince *Theomedes* were greatly surprized to see him,
for

for they could not doubt but that he had heard of the last words of *Democrates*, which were spoke before too great a multitude not to have been reported to him, and they were perswaded that he would rather have thought upon flying, then upon coming thither. But this perfidious wretch was too subtil too have conceived any such design that would have been so prejudicial to him, and he had not resolved to betray himself. 'I come, said he to them with a countenance that seemed not to have the least concern upon it in the world, and with as great an assurance in his voice; to render my self a prisoner, to justify me of what *Democrates* has said of me dying: had I been criminal, I should not with so much confidence dare now to appear before you, I should have been by this time far enough off of this.

“this place, and have had time e-
“nough to make my escape from
“the just chastisement that would
“have been due to me; but I de-
“fire to prove it a meer imposture,
“and so show my innocence, for
“it is only virtue that is the cause
“of my crime. Yes, my virtue is
all that has rendered me guilty;
since that, continued he, addres-
sing himself to Prince *Theonides*,
“what I lately did for you, in dis-
“covering the Letter that *Demo-*
“*crates* was sending to his friend,
“was the occasion of his resolving
“to do what he could to make
“my innocence be suspected, and
“to be revenged for my making
“his to be called in question. It
“is well known how sweet re-
“venge is, and what it will
“prompt a man to do; what ef-
“fects it produces daily; that
“there are some persons who find
“it impossible to stifle the senti-
ments

'ments it inspires them withal;
 'that there are some with whom
 'it never dies; and indeed who
 'keep it up even after death, in
 'leaving it as an Inheritance to
 'their Children or friends, or
 'elce in saying such words when
 'they are dying, as make'em per-
 'secute, after their death, those
 'whom they were resolved to be
 'revenged of while they were a-
 'live. This revenge is oft times
 'too deeply rooted in the hearts
 'of men, and which of all the pas-
 'sions dies last with them: which
 'has made *Democrates* to say that
 'he had very powerful manifesta-
 'tions of my crime: it is clearly
 'demonstrable by those last
 'words, that he was cruelly trou-
 'bled with this outrageous passi-
 'on, that it compleated his desires,
 'and took up all his thoughts;
 'since that then when he should
 'have been only thinking on that
 'great

‘great account he was going to
‘make to the Gods of all his acti-
‘ons, it was only the power of re-
‘venge that was able to open his
‘mouth. Yet he had not that au-
‘daciouſneſs poſitively to affirm
‘that I was a Criminal, for fear
‘leaſt his Impoſture might have
‘been too apparent ; but was for-
‘ced, in ſpite of his good inclina-
‘tion to ruin me to be contented
‘with only making my innocence
‘doubted of, poſſibly thinking,
‘that in caſe his wounds ſhould
‘not be mortal, he might be ob-
‘liged to prove what he had ſaid.
‘And thus you ſee, continued he,
‘both what is my crime, and
‘wherefore I am criminal, yet
‘notwithſtanding my Innocence,
‘if you ſuſpect me to be guilty,
‘ſaid he, throwing himſelf upon
‘his knees before the King, and
‘Prince *Theomedes*, I have deſerv-
‘ed to die, and will ſeek it with a
‘paſ-

'passionate earnestness, since I've
 'merited your anger and whoso-
 'ever has had the unhappiness to
 'displease Kings and Princes, and
 'has procur'd himself their anger,
 'is unworthy to live, or at least
 'deserves to have but a languish-
 'ing life, accompanied with a
 'thousand miseries, and full of
 'melancholy fears, and torments,
 'and inquietudes.

If the King and Prince *Theome-*
des could not keep their surprise
 from being taken notice of, in see-
 ing *Sestianes* coming up to them,
 his words made it much more vi-
 sible in their looks: they stood a
 good while silent, not knowing
 what they had best to doe, nor in-
 deed what they had best to say to
 him; but at last being overcome
 by his artifices, they took the
 most deceitful and perfidious of
 all men breathing for the most
 generous, and thought it would
 be

be an injustice to question his innocence, and that they ought to send him away with a perfect absolution; that which perswaded *Theomedes* to it, was, that if he had conspired against him, which he could not believe, for the reasons I have acquainted you with, this civil treatment would oblige him possibly to change his design of killing him, into that of doing him service.

This crafty perfidious wretch, after he had kist the Kings hand and the Princes, withdrew very much satisfied at the favourable success of so uncommon a temerity, and as before ever he went about this devise, he had acquainted his associates with it, and bid them not to be alarmed at it, nor fear any thing, he went strait from the presence to give them an account of what had past, and to let them know the good fortune

tune, that his address and artifices had met with, and the esteem that the King and Prince *Theomedes* had of him. This intelligence did exceedingly rejoyce the confederates; they thought they had no cause of apprehending any thing, but that they were as safe as could be, and that no mischief could befall them, it being out of the power of fortune to betray them, and ever to make them be discovered, having got a person so witty, so fortunate, and so couragious as *Sestianes*, who was able to turn those things to his advantage, which in all probability, would have wrought his absolute ruin.

When *Sestianes* was informed with how much honour her Father was come off of the imputation he lay under, her fear began by degrees to abate, in thinking that her Father was not looked
upon

upon as criminal, and that he was not taken prisoner, but the more this fear grew off, the greater was her regret for the death of so faithfull a Lover; all her virtue, though it was most severely strict, could not keep her from bestowing some tears on a person who had like to take away her Fathers life. 'I perceive very well, said she to her self, if *Democrates* were still living, my virtue would not suffer me, either to see him, or to love him, or so much as permit him to have any Love for me; but pity obliges me, do what I can, to bewail the unhappy fate of him to whom I had given my heart; none ought to wonder at it, nor ought I to wonder at it my self, pity produces many other effects, and if it force us to bewail our enemies, when they are no longer in a capacity of doing us any

any hurt, none need to be amaz-
 ed, if it makes us to regret those
 whom we have loved. I wish,
 said she to her self, discoursing
 still with her thoughts, that *Democrates*
 had not spoke against
 my Father, but has not my Fa-
 ther spoke against him, and af-
 ter he had promised he should
 marry me, did not he deprive
 him of all hopes that he
 would ever give me his hand ?
 I wish that *Democrates* had had
 those sentiments a generous per-
 son ought to have, but he was a
 Man ; that is to say, sensible of
 injuries, and besides, an abused
 Lover, and those two things do
 often oblige persons to do both
 more then they ought, and more
 then they would. To conclude,
 I wish that *Democrates* had not
 done what an Heroick, but what
 a severe and scrupulous virtue
 inspires in those who possess it
 in

‘in the supremest degree ; but re-
‘venge, that cruel imperious pas-
‘sion, which always governs
‘with an absolute Empire the
‘hearts of those it has got the
‘power over, and which has as
‘little reason to qualify it as love,
‘and besides is full as blinde ; that
‘Tyrant of Souls did force him,
‘in spite of all his resistance, to
‘prefer its counsellors to those of
‘generosity. These were the
sentiments of *Sestiane*, who im-
puted to revenge all that *Democra-
tes* had spoke against her Father,
and who never yet suspected the
truth, and was less disposed to di-
vine it, for it is very rare for a
child to doubt the innocence of
those who are the occasion of
their coming into the world.

But although *Democrates* was
almost universally lamented, and
his friends took his death with a
great deal of grief, which was
likewise

likewise bewailed most passionately by her, who notwithstanding the severity of her virtue, had not the power to hate him, yet his death was not left to be unpunished, though they were ignorant of the Authors of it. Not but that ~~she~~ was suspected of it, but the want of sufficient proof, together with his eminent quality, kept the relations of ~~Demetrius~~ from discovering their resentment and revenge, as much as they had done, had they known that another had been the Author of so foul and base an action, or had they had any sufficient proofs against those who had been so, to which there might have been some credit given.

Seftianus began to hope for a favourable success of his barbarous and cruel design; he thought he had blown over all the storms that threatened him, that he was

not

not likely to be exposed to the reverse of fortune, and that the esteem the Prince *Thromedes* testified to him, would give him a more convenient opportunity to execute what he had resolv'd upon when the Court received a Letter from *Anaxander*, whom same, & the particular friends of *Democrates*, had informed of all that had past. This sad and generous friend of our Heroe, who studied to be revenged of his death, sent word that it was no longer necessary to keep things in disguise, and that he was Innocent of the crime, of which he had impeach'd himself, to save a friend, who was no more a Criminal then he or the clearest person alive; but that he was very sure that what *Democrates* had said against *Sestianus* after he had received his death's wound, was most certainly true, that the love he had for his
Daughter,

Daughter, was the occasion that he did not discover it sooner, and that the Father of that fair One suspecting our Heroe knew of his crime, had accused him purely out of fear, that so if it should happen to him to be accused again, he might have a very fair plea for himself, and make the world believe that what he should speak was only out of malice and revenge. He added also that his friend had given him a full account of all these things a little before that fatal accident befell him, and in the same letter sent all the particulars that made *Democritus* to suspect *Sebastian*, and what he had said before he was taken prisoner the first time. Moreover he offered to come, if they desired it, to render himself a prisoner to maintain what he said, and to defend the honour of his friend after his death as well

as

as he had done when he was living, and earnestly positioned the King to let *Sebastien* be arrested to force him to discover all, and showed him that he should not run the hazard of committing an injustice, in case he did act in that manner; so long as it was always in his power to restore him his libertie, if he judg'd him to be innocent, but that it was necessary to have him arrested for the safety of Prince *Theoneder's* life; because he knew of no other Criminals but him, and that what he had said, after he had excused himself for saving the life and honour of his friend, was only that the true guilty persons, whom yet he did not know, might not live in any security, and that the Prince *Theoneder* might not remain any longer exposed to their fury.

This letter was presented to
the

the King with as much faithfull-
ness as secrecy, and was perused
by him and *Theomedes* without
Sestianus's knowing any thing of
it in the world. It gave them a
very great confusion, and before
they ever went about making
Sestianus to be arrested, they ex-
amined into the whole life of *De-
mocrates*, to see if he had never
been guilty of any action misbe-
coming a Gallant man, and which
might give them any cause not to
believe him. They likewise up-
on the same account looked over
all the actions of *Alexander*, and
whatever they had known of
him, during the time he had
made his residence in that Court;
but they found nothing in nei-
ther of them that did not very
highly commend their virtue,
and their generosity, and which
did not perswade them to give an
entire belief to all their words.
They

They also reflected upon all they knew of *Seftianes*; but they were sensible upon feveral occasions, that he had given them some caufe of doubting his virtue; and they believed that fince *Democritus* had never given them any of miftrusting his with juftice, and that he accused him at a time, when perfons are wont to fpeak the truth more then at any other time; upon the whole, they thought they were obliged to believe *Seftianes* guilty; all thefe things confidered with what they began to be perfwaded of that he had poffibly blinded them by a falfe and pretended femblance of virtue, and that his generofity was only an artifice to dazzle them, and to divert the blow that threatened him, made them refolve to have him taken, and to clapt up in the Tower, where none might be admitted to difcourfe with him, which

which they immediately caused to be put in execution!

Though he was not a little surpriz'd to see himself become a prisoner, yet he had so much wit with him as to conceal his inward disorder, and though fear had taken full possession of his heart, yet his countenance did shew all the tranquillity imaginable, and as he perceived they had no proofs against him, and had only put him into prison to see if he would not betray himself, he defended himself so admirably, that he deceived all those who in the least thought any thing to his disadvantage. He was demanded why, upon the report that ran up and down, that *Democrates* knew all the Conspiracy, he had told him, that he was unjustly suspected, except he had always apprehended him, or had heard that he should be accused by him. They added
I also,

also, that if he was not guilty, he should not have made such a discourse, and that whether either he had suspected him, or had really told him that he was a Criminal, or that he pretended he had heard it, there was still an equal ground to doubt his Innocence, since if that was true which was told to *Demetrius*, that he was guilty, or necessarily there was a report of it, and likewise some proof of his crime, and if it was not, in all probability he only came to find him, and to endeavour to know cunningly of him, if it were true or not, that he was acquainted with all the conspiracy, thereby the better to order his affairs. *Scipio* answered, that nothing of all this was true, and that if he had been to wait upon *Demetrius*, to hold such a discourse with him, he should not have dared to accuse him, as he had done, for fear

fear he should have recriminated upon him, and that since he had said nothing of it all the time he lived, whilst it was supposed that he had said those things to him, which very likely would have ruined him, and that he had not so much as spoke of them when he was dying, it was very easie to see that it was a meer falsity that was imputed to him. He added that it was no wonder if *Anaxander* did seek to take away his life, for having put into the hands of the King the letter that *Democrates* writ to him, that he had done things much more considerable to secure the reputation of his friend, and that since he had rendered himself guilty for his sake, though he was Innocent, he might very easily be induced to tell a lye to be revenged of a person who had acted against him, who was not able to bear his crime without

horror, and who likewise could not refrain showing the proofs he had of it.

Never were persons seen in a greater perplexity and confusion then were the King and Prince *Theomedes*, after they had heard the answer that *Sestianes* made, they were clearly of opinion that he might justly be suspected, but they did not see which way he could be convicted, and as all probabilities signifie nothing without positive proofs, and that it is a most unjust thing to condemn a person upon a bare suspicion, they could not tell how in the world to get out of this trouble that *Sestianes* put them into by his confidence, and undaunted resolution. 'What, said Prince *Theomedes*, must I confound the innocent with the guilty, believe the most generous of all men are the most base, and the most perfidious

'fidious, and that the most perfidious & base are the most generous? must I think *Anaxander* to be an Imposter? and must I think *Sestianes* a wicked and perfidious wretch that has determined my death? he, who, to serve me, declared against his designed Son in Law? and must I, in a word, by a cruel necessity do an injury to the memory of *Democrates*, and doubt his Innocence, who all his life was never known to be guilty of an action unworthy an honourable person? But what, said he again presently, must I be always in fear? daily exposed to danger, and wait till he, whose life I dare not yet take away, come and run me through? Yes, I ought always to be exposed to danger and not fear the fury of those who aim at my life; fear is unworthy of a Prince, and much more of a

‘generous man: Princes ought
‘not to be too careful to secure
‘themselves from the danger that
‘threatens them, their courage
‘and their virtue ought to be their
‘guard, and to answer for what
‘befals them, and that which is
‘looked upon as foresight in o-
‘thers, will in them be counted
‘baseness and Cowardice.

Prince *Theomedes*, after he had
a pretty while abandoned himself
to his inquietude, began to hearken
en to those sentiments which ge-
nerosity usually inspires into per-
sons of his Rank and Quality, and
went to demand of the King, that
the most Criminal of all men
might be set at liberty, when
word was brought that one of the
five hundred prisoners, who had
been taken in the late conspiracy,
where there were ten thousand
that rose up against all the Royall
house, accused *Sestianes* of the
Crime,

Crime, which Democritus had charged him with as he was dying. This undaunted Criminal, who was ignorant who he should be said as soon as ever he heard of it, that this fellow was some cheat and impostor, that he did unjustly accuse him, and that he would make him to confess the contrary, and deny all he had said. Whereupon Cleob (for so was that prisoner called) was brought before him, but he was greatly surprized when he saw that it was one of those who had been of the conspiracy with him, and that it was the same person, who we were mentioning before, was talking with for whom he was so much concerned (since) that he knew not what was become of him, and all for that it was him of all the Number whom he most suspected. The sight of him had even almost made him change

his countenance, and his emotion went very near to discover what he had always concealed with so favourable a success. Yet notwithstanding, his confidence having immediately banished the fear that had begun to seize upon his heart, he looked upon Cleobis with an air full of fierceness and a contemning scorn mixt together, and said with a disdainfull smile; 'though in the condition
'I am in at present, I might fear
'all things from my Enemies, and
'that the imposture, which may
'justly be tearmed, the innocents
'executioner, makes use of all
'the most cruel and artificiois
'ways of malice to take away my
'life, yet it is sufficient to scatter
'my fear, that it is only Cleobis
'who presents himself, and is the
'man that accuses me. I do not
'believe the King nor the Prince
'Throneder will easily give any
aid, credit

'credit to him: for any one may
 'very well think, that if I had
 'conspired, I should not have dis-
 'covered the secret to a man so
 'much to be mistrusted, and it is
 'very apparent that he does not
 'now accuse me, but only to pro-
 'long his life, and by this artifice
 'to hope, that Prince *Theomedes*,
 'thinking himself greatly obliged
 'to him, will demand his pardon
 'of the King: I have been assured
 'by some persons of my acquaint-
 'ance, that my Enemies, and the
 'Relations of *Democrates*, has
 'promised to get his crime par-
 'doned, provided he would say
 'that which he had been so hardy
 'to utter against me, and which
 'he still neither durst, nor can
 'maintain. But though all this
 'should not be true, pursued he,
 'it is very well known that he
 'has formerly been my greatest
 'Enemy, and that he was forced

‘to seek my friendship. All these
‘circumstances do discover, that
‘his former hatred had not now
‘been awakened, but that he
‘saw he had a most convenient
‘opportunity for it ; nor that he
‘had accused me, but either from
‘the prospect he had thereby to
‘obtain his pardon, or from the
‘satisfaction he should have to see
‘me perish with him ; and that
‘there ought not to be any credit
‘given to such a person, whom
‘so many several reasons do in-
‘duce to accuse an innocent.

If before that *Cleobis* had accu-
sed *Salmanes*, the King and Prince
Thamades’s perplexity was great,
this discourse of that subtil and
ingenious Politician gave a great-
er accession to it, and he had still
so much good fortune, that he
made use of those things, which
were most likely to ruin him, to
confound others, and cast them
into

into a far greater trouble than
that with which his breast was agi-
tated; but at last that good for-
tune grew weary, of accompany-
ing so pernicious a wretch, and
Heaven, which was resolved to
leave him no longer unpunished,
now made a truth to be known,
which had so long been kept so
secret, which had given confusion
to so many persons, and which
until then could never be ascer-
vered, whatever ways they had
made use of, and notwithstanding
all they had done to find it
out. But yet this wicked man
had the happiness not to betray
himself, and still stood out with
a great deal of wit and bravery, as
long as it was possible for him. He
did not put fortune to the blush
for the good services he had done
him, but he showed that his bold-
ness, his constancy, and his valour
did not equal his crimes, and possibly
he

he might yet have defended himself longer, if that some of the conspirators whom *Cleobis* nam'd, had not fled for it, and if the others had not been taken prisoner, discovered all the particularities, maintained to *Sestianus's* face that he was guilty, and had not by convincing proofs, and such as were impossible to be doubted of, deprived him of all the means of defending himself any longer.

They asked *Cleobis*, to be more clearly satisfied in all things, why he, (who had told *Poligesius*, that he would discover all things to him, and who was dead before he saw him,) had said, that he believed *Demetrius* was of the conspiracy. *Cleobis* answered, that they had all thought so, for he being so near marrying the daughter of *Sestianus*, they were fully perswaded that he had com-
municated

communicated his design to him, but it seems that time had discovered to them the contrary.

The perfidious *Seftianus*, seeing himself convicted, yet was not at all the more allarmed at it, nor did he show any actions that betray'd the constancy he had always testified, he confess'd all without changing his countenance, and spoke with as much assurance, as if his judges had been the Criminals, and he their Judge. 'Yes, said he to them, 'since I cannot tell how any longer to defend my self, I acknowledge I did conspire against Prince *Theodorus*, and the ill Offices he did me at Court, together with the displeasure I received in that he had given to one of his creatures a place which the King intended to bestow on me, and which he had even promised me, did make me

hatch

' hatch the design of taking away
 ' his life, and for that purpose I
 ' elected such persons as had as good
 ' different a kindness for him as
 ' myself, and who had as great a
 ' reason to complain of him; and
 ' if you examine well all those of
 ' the confederacy, needed he, you
 ' will find that the greatest num-
 ' ber of them are those that live
 ' near his lands and dominions,
 ' and whom he has by his un-
 ' just tyranny, obliged to have
 ' an invincible hatred for him,
 ' and to study all ways ima-
 ' ginable how to compass his
 ' death. After this confession
 ' you may imagine that De Witt
 ' was innocent and that he
 ' would not have destroyed him
 ' but for fear lest he should accuse
 ' me in the thoughts I had, that
 ' one of the conspirators had dis-
 ' covered all to him, and that it
 ' was only for that he had been
 ' suspected.

'suspected of the crime that I was
 'the Authour of. If *Democrates*,
 'said I to my self, knows all, no-
 'thing but the love he bears my
 'daughter, will keep him from
 'speaking & revealing my crime;
 'but as there are several things
 'that may still this love, that may
 'make him repent of his silence,
 'and at last hearken to his duty,
 'when it shall counsel him to dis-
 'cover and betray me, it is my
 'best way to make him undergo
 'the same fate, as I have designed
 'for the Prince *Theomedes*, and to
 'be only thinking now how I
 'should effect it with the greatest
 'safety. I was in this resolution,
 'when a meer chance presented
 'me with the means to bring it a-
 'bout, more secret, and less peril-
 'lous, then those were I had pro-
 'posed to my self; and gave me
 'an opportunity to execute part
 'of what I had projected, and
 'without

‘without any blood shed, to di-
‘vert the blow that seemed to
‘threaten me. The letter that *De-*
‘*mocrates* writ to *Alexander* fell
‘into my hands, and I thought it
‘my prudentest course to put it
‘into those of the Kings, and that
‘this ill office I should do to the
‘unfortunate Innocent person
‘would prevent all manner of be-
‘lief of whatsoever he should say
‘against me. You have known
‘the success of it, but you are ig-
‘norant yet that the fear of being
‘discovered having taken a new
‘possession of my heart, and that
‘the desire which Ambition had
‘kindled in me, to see my Daugh-
‘ter married to *Arcas*, who is, as
‘you know, both by his Estate,
‘and birth, much more consider-
‘able than *Democrates*, obliged
‘me to seek out fresh occasions of
‘destroying this latter Fortune,
‘which continued still favoura-
‘ble

'ble to me, presented me with
 'one less hazardous then the for-
 'mer: I knew that *Arcas* was cru-
 'elly persecuted by his jealousy,
 'and that he could not indure my
 'Daughter should conserve any
 'tenderness for *Democrates*, I
 'made use of this occasion to bring
 'my design about, and told him,
 'that he ought not to suffer a Ri-
 'val to have half shares of a heart
 'which ought to belong wholly
 'to him. As there is need of but
 'a little thing to stir up a jealous
 'man, who does not doubt but
 'that his Rival has too great an
 'Interest in the favours of his
 'Mistress, and whom *Arcas* his
 'jealousie had councell'd before
 'to call him to an account for it,
 'he strait fought with *Democrates*,
 'and in that duel met with the
 'shameful success you have heard
 'of, which being so fatal to his
 'honour, he came to give me a
 relation

‘relation of his unhappiness, and
‘of the sensible disgrace that For-
‘tune had made him receive. I
‘knowing him then to be in a hu-
‘mour fit to undertake any thing,
‘I told him it was such a shame
‘to suffer his Rival to live any
‘longer, and to have an object
‘that should daily represent to
‘him the affront his honour had
‘received, that without any more
‘ado he was resolved to put a pe-
‘riod to his days. A short time af-
‘ter he caused *Dr. G. G.* to be af-
‘flicted by three persons whom
‘he had hired for that purpose, or
‘rather by three of those merce-
‘nary Assassines, who are daily
‘employed in such murders.
‘Now continued he, after this
‘particular information, you
‘ought not to ask any thing fur-
‘ther of me, and I have told you
‘more than you would have
‘known had you only learnt that

'I was the Author of *Democrates*
 'his death; since that without my
 'Conncel, *Arceas* possibly would
 'never have assassinated him. This
 'is, pursued he, a faithful account
 'of all my crimes, and all the fa-
 'vour I demand of you, if you can
 'grant any to so great a Criminal
 'as I am, is to hasten the day of my
 'death, lest I should repent that I
 'had committed them, and that
 'the tormenting rigour of a long
 '& cruel imprisonment should ab-
 'bate my constancy, so as it would
 'do my countenance, and make
 'those who should be spectators
 'at my Death, to think that I
 'was afraid of punishments, and
 'that Death was terrible to me.
 'I know very well, continued he,
 'that I cannot hope for pardon,
 'and as I would not desire to live
 'after I had acknowledged my-
 'self a Criminal, I confess all my
 'crimes, and even those whereof

‘I was not accused, that so the
‘horror you ought to have to
‘suffer so great a Criminal to live,
‘should oblige you to give a sud-
‘den determination of my death,
‘and as short a day for it.

Though *Sestianus* was long be-
fore suspected, and even before
his confession they ceased any
longer to doubt of his crime, yet
his discourse was very surprizing
to those Judges, as well as it ac-
quainted them with the Authour
of our Heroe’s Death. They
caused him to be lockt up again,
and went to inform the King and
Prince *Theomedes* of all had pas-
sed, and what *Sestianus* had told
them. Their astonishment could
not keep them from bestowing
some sighs upon the Death of
Democrates, whose innocence
thereby was fully known to them,
and reflecting upon the generosi-
ty of *Alexander*, whom the trou-
ble

ble and confusion in which they were, had till then kept them from esteeming as they ought to have done; Prince *Theomedes* cryed out, that he had never seen a person so generous, nor so faithfull a friend, and that he had reason to boast of his crime in the first Letter he had sent them, the misterious sence of which he so perfectly knew, and which he had reason to say, *that as had a Criminal as he declared himself to be, he hoped that posterity should not be able to reproach his honour*; since that his crime was so glorious, and generous, that posterity ought to conserve the remembrance of it, to cause it to be admired by all thole that should hear it.

The King having understood, by the relation that was given him, what *Seslianes* had said, and heard of all the crimes he had charged himself with, and that

Arca

encibitac

Aras had caused *Democrates* to be murdered, immediately ordered him to be arrested; but as he was of too illustrious a birth, and likewise had several Relations and Friends that held a very considerable rank at Court, he presently learnt all that had pass there, and by a hasty flight had escaped the prison they had prepared for him, and some time after they heard that he was got into *France*. As for *Sestanes* he had what he desired, and was a little while after condemned to lose his head. Prince *Theomedes* would nevertheless have used his utmost interest to prevent that sentence against his life, if he had been only guilty against him; but there was so much perfidiousness in his crime, which came from a break so black and wicked, that he was judged utterly unworthy to obtain any favour, and that such a

perfidious

perfidious and dangerous man
ought not to be permitted to live;
who knew how to dissemble with
so much art, and who was capable
of accomplishing whatsoever he
undertook, which could be no o-
ther then such things as must
needs have most cruel and pern-
cious consequences.

This crafty and undaunted Cri-
minal satisfied at the expence of
his life the sentence that had been
given against him, and died as al-
most all of that Country are wont
to do, that is to say, with a con-
fancy worthy to be admired, and
so it was by a great number of
people, who spoke very advanta-
giouly of his Criminal and inge-
nious carriage, and said, that he
had a wit capable of the most dif-
ficult and hazardous enterpri-
ses.

That which was the more re-
markable in this History, was
known that

that *Democrates*, without thinking in the least of it, had himself laboured to revenge his death, before he died, and that Heaven had suffered *Cleobis* to be among the five hundred prisoners, whom that generous Heroe had helped to take, in the service of his King, without knowing that among them there was a person, who could remove the doubt they had of his Innocence, and discover the real guilty person, and who, in re-establishing his glory, could hinder posterity from making his memory odious, and in a word, who could revenge his death, by the blood of the most perfidious man in the world.

I think it is not necessary to relate what *Sestius* said, and did, between the condemnation of her Father, and his death, nor at that time that she heard of his death; for it is very well known

known than the power of grief makes one at first not to resent it, that the surprise it causes keeps one silent, and that the extream weakness it casts one into, takes away the sense. The violence of *Sestiana's* grief produced all these effects, and she could not resent, and know all the calamities that were befallen her altogether, untill the trouble and seizure were a little over, which gave her such fatal and sensible intelligences. But when she was a little come to her self, and in a condition of resenting the cruel assaults of her grief. O heavens! said she 'to her self, is it possible you should have resolved that I should endure so many miseries? is it possible that you should permit it, and can it be believed that a poor harmless maid should be destined to bear all

‘the rage of the most barbarous and pittiless fate? Ah!
‘how did *Democrates* say to me,
‘when I spoke to him of the
‘crime which he was unjust-
‘ly accused of, that the guilty
‘person would cost me many
‘tears. Both the guilty and
‘the innocent do cost me so at
‘once; I knew not the crime
‘of one, untill it was impossi-
‘ble for me to prevent his de-
‘struction, and I did not learn
‘the innocence of the other
‘untill after his Death. I did
‘not demand so much, nor
‘would I have known of my
‘Fathers crime, only have heard
‘of the innocence of *Democrates*,
‘but I would have known it,
‘that so I might have recom-
‘penced it, and not have been
‘obliged only to pour out tears.
‘Ah! too sensible loss of a
‘dear and faithfull Lover, in-
‘to

'to what a sad condition do
 'you reduce me? Ah! *Demo-*
 '*crates*, how will thy Death
 'cost me tears? ah! too blind
 'Father, what have you done?
 'ah! but what, pursued she,
 'am I sensible of what I do?
 'I more bewail a Lover than a
 'Father; yes, it is true, I do
 'bewail him, and that without
 'shocking either reason, or du-
 'ty, or virtue; and though I
 'ought to bewail them both,
 'yet fate will have it, that he
 'who should be the dearest to
 'me, should be the least be-
 'wailed. Ah! wherefore too
 'scrupulous Lover, did you not
 'discover your secret to me, I
 'should have known your in-
 'nocence, and would have mar-
 'ryed you before my Father
 'had forbid it; but you ima-
 'gined, that I would not have
 'believed your discourses, and
 K 2 'you

‘you would not put any thing
‘to the hazard. You resolved
‘to be prudent, but your pru-
‘dence, which was almost fa-
‘tal to you, has not in this oc-
‘casion been more favourable
‘then formerly. It is true it
‘has spared me many displea-
‘sures which possibly would
‘not have been so cruel to me,
‘and which perhaps I might
‘have now forgot, and I ac-
‘knowledge this service after
‘thy death. But replied she
‘immediately, ought I to count
‘that a Service, which makes
‘me now to weep, and which
‘has caused thy death, and like-
‘wise that of my Fathers? yes,
‘continued she, it was one,
‘but time has made it fatal, our
‘common unhappiness has poi-
‘soned it; and prudence, which
‘promises, and which affords o-
‘thers so much good fortune,
‘will

'will give us only causes of af-
 'flicting our selves, and after it
 'did make thee lose the favour
 'of thy Prince, kept thee from
 'making any further declarati-
 'on of thy flame to me, when
 'thou mightest have married
 'me, to have made me doubt
 'your Innocence, to have be-
 'trayed you in all things, and
 'to have rendered all your
 'actions fatal to you, and at
 'last to have cost you your life,
 'that if it had not hindered you
 'from being the death of Arcan,
 'that inhuman Rival had not
 'made you be assassinated. It
 'is impossible for life to be any
 'longer pleasing to me, after
 'the loss of so faithful a Lo-
 'ver, and it cannot but be hate-
 'ful to me after the death of
 'a Father who has lost his
 'head upon a Scaffold; where-
 'fore in honour and Love I
 ought

'ought to be so much the
'more desirous to die, since it
'is only that which can put
'an end to all my cruel tor-
'ments, with which my Soul
'will be overwhelmed as long
'as I have a day to live.

The sorrow of this fair and
generous afflicted Lady could
not possibly meet with any di-
minution, time which for the
most part wears out other griefs,
how cruel so ever, could doe
nothing upon hers, till at last
she met with what she so much
desired, which was so violent
a Peavour, that in a few days
it put an end to all her trou-
bles, as it did to her life.

Five or six months after all
these bloody and Tragical ad-
ventures, they were informed
that *Araxander* had revenged
the

the death of his friend, for having met *Arcas* in *France*, he obliged him to draw, in which duell he only received a slight wound from him, but came off a conqueror, by laying his Enemy dead at his feet,

Scindia, a Romance, 12 d.

Happy Slave in a Part complete, 12 d.

Aladdin's Lamp, 12 d. Part complete, 12 d.

pleat, 2 s.

Opening Gallant, 12 d.

Defender of Love, 12 d.

Travels of a French Gentleman, 12 d.

Almanac and Almanac, 12 d.

Double Cuckold, 12 d.

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In the Press.

F I N I S.

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Novels Printed for R. Bentley and
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In the Press.

- The Princess of Cleves.*
- The Theatre of the World.*
- Some French Books.*

be an injustice to question his innocence, and that they ought to send him away with a perfect absolution; that which perswaded *Theomedes* to it, was, that if he had conspired against him, which he could not believe, for the reasons I have acquainted you with, this civil treatment would oblige him possibly to change his design of killing him, into that of doing him service.

This crafty perfidious wretch, after he had kiss'd the Kings hand and the Princes, withdrew very much satisfied at the favourable success of so uncommon a temerity, and as before ever he went about this devise, he had acquainted his associates with it, and bid them not to be alarmed at it, nor fear any thing, he went straight from the presence to give them an account of what had pass'd, and to let them know the good fortune

sune, that his address and artifices had met with, and the esteem that the King and Prince *Theonides* had of him. This intelligence did exceedingly rejoyce the confederates; they thought they had no cause of apprehending any thing, but that they were as safe as could be, and that no mischief could befall them, it being out of the power of fortune to betray them, and yet to make them be discovered, having got a person so witty, so fortunate, and so courageous as *Astianes*, who was able to turn those things to his advantage, which in all probability, would have wrought his absolute ruin.

When *Astianes* was informed with how much honour her Father was come off of the imputation he lay under, her fear began by degrees to abate, in thinking that her Father was not looked upon

upon as criminal, and that he was not taken prisoner, but the more this fear grew off, the greater was her regret for the death of so faithfull a Lover; all her virtue, though it was most severely strict, could not keep her from bestowing some tears on a person who had like to take away her Fathers life. 'I perceive very well, said she to her self, if *Democritus* were still living, my virtue would not suffer me, either to see him, or to love him, or so much as permit him to have any Love for me; but pity obliges me, do what I can, to bewail the unhappy fate of him to whom I had given my heart; none ought to wonder at it, nor ought I to wonder at it my self, pity produces many other effects, and if it force us to bewail our enemies, when they are no longer in a capacity of doing us any

any hurt, none need to be amaz-
 ed, if it makes us to regret those
 whom we have loved. I wish,
 said she to her self, discoursing
 still with her thoughts, that *De-*
mocrates had not spoke against
 my Father, but has not my Fa-
 ther spoke against him, and af-
 ter he had promised he should
 marry me, did not he deprive
 him of all hopes that he
 would ever give me his hand?
 I wish that *Democrates* had had
 those sentiments a generous per-
 son ought to have, but he was a
 Man; that is to say, sensible of
 injuries, and besides, an abused
 Lover, and those two things do
 often oblige persons to do both
 more then they ought, and more
 then they would. To conclude,
 I wish that *Demosrates* had not
 done what an Heroick, but what
 a severe and scrupulous virtue
 inspires in those who possess it
 in

in the supremest degree; but revenge, that cruel imperious passion, which always governs with an absolute Empire the hearts of those it has got the power over, and which has as little reason to qualify it as love, and besides is full as blinde, that Tyrant of Souls did force him, in spite of all his resistance, to prefer its counsell, to those of generosity. These were the sentiments of *Sextius*, who imputed to revenge all that *Demetrius* had spoke against her Father, and who never yet suspected the truth, and was less disposed to distrust it, for it is very rare for a child to doubt the innocence of those who are the occasion of their coming into the world.

But although *Demetrius* was almost universally lamented, and his friends took his death with a great deal of grief, which was likewise

likewise bewailed most passionately by her, who notwithstanding the severity of her virtues, had not the power to hate him, yet his death was not left to be unpunished, I thought they were ignorant of the Authors bit. Not but that action was suspected of it, but the want of sufficient proof, together with his eminent quality, kept the relations of his death from discovering their resentment and revenge, as much as they should have done had they known that another had been the Author of so foul and base an action, nor had they had any sufficient proofs against the offenders themselves, to which there might have been some credit given. The scholars began to hope for a favourable success of his barbarous and cruel design; then thought he had blown over all the storms that threatened him, that he was not

not likely to be exposed to the reverse of fortune, and that the esteem the Prince *Theonides* testified to him, would give him a more convenient opportunity to execute what he had resolv'd upon when the Court received a Letter from *Anaxander*, whom same, & the particular friends of *Democrates*, had informed of all that had past. This sad and generous friend of our Heroe, who studied to be revenged of his death, sent word that it was no longer necessary to keep things in disguise, and that he was Innocent of the crime, of which he had impeached himself, to save a friend, who was no more a Criminal then he or the clearest person alive; but that he was very sure that what *Democrates* had said against *Sestianus* after he had received his death's wound, was most certainly true, that the love he had for his Daughter,

Daughter, was the occasion that he did not discover it sooner, and that the Father of that fair One suspecting our Heroe knew of his crime, had accused him purely out of fear, that so if it should happen to him to be accused again, he might have a very fair plea for himself, and make the world believe that what he should speak was only out of malice and revenge. He added also that his friend had given him a full account of all these things a little before that fatal accident befell him, and in the same letter sent all the particulars that made *Democritus* to suspect *Sestianus*, and what he had said before he was taken prisoner the first time. Moreover he offered to come, if they desired it, to render himself a prisoner to maintain what he said, and to defend the honour of his friend after his death as well
the as

as he had done when he was li-
 ving, and earnestly petitioned the
 King to let *Sofian* be arrested to
 force him to discover all, and
 shewed him that he should not
 run the hazard of committing an
 injustice, in case he did act in
 that manner, so long as it was in
 ways in his power to restore him
 his liberties, if he judged him to
 be innocent, but that it was ne-
 cessary to have him arrested for
 the safety of Prince *Theodore's*
 life, because he knew of no other
 Criminals but him, and that
 what he had said, after he had ex-
 cused himself for saving the life
 and honour of his friend, was
 only that the true guilty persons,
 whom yet he did not know,
 might not live in any security,
 and that the Prince *Theodore*
 might not remain any longer ex-
 posed to their rage or his bias.
 This letter was presented and
 the

the King with as much faithfull-
ness as secrecy, and was perswaded
by him and *Theomedes* without
Seftanes's knowing any thing of
it in the world. It gave them a
very great confusion, and before
they ever went about making
Seftanes to be arrested, they en-
quired into the whole life of *De-
mocrates*, to see if he had never
been guilty of any action misbe-
coming a Gallant man, and which
might give them any cause not to
believe him. They likewise up-
on the same account looked over
all the actions of *Alexander*, and
whatever they had known of
him, during the time he had
made his residence in that Court,
but they found nothing in nei-
ther of them that did not very
highly commend their virtues,
and their generosity, and which
did not perswade them to give an
implicit belief to all their words.

They

They also reflected upon all they knew of *Sestianus*; but they were sensible upon several occasions, that he had given them some cause of doubting his virtue; and they believed that since *Democritus* had never given them any of mistrusting his with justice, and that he accused him at a time, when persons are wont to speak the truth more then at any other time; upon the whole, they thought they were obliged to believe *Sestianus* guilty: all these things considered with what they began to be perswaded of that he had possibly blinded them by a false and pretended semblance of virtue, and that his generosity was only an artifice to dazzle them, and to divert the blow that threatned him, made them resolve to have him taken, and be slapt up in the Tower, where none might be admitted to discourse with him, which

which they immediately caused to be put in execution.

Though he was not a little surpriz'd to see himself become a prisoner, yet he had so much wit with him as to conceal his inward disorder, and though fear had taken full possession of his heart, yet his countenance did shew all the tranquillity imaginable, and as he perceived they had no proofs against him, and had only put him into prison to see if he would not betray himself; he defended himself so admirably, that he deceived all those who in the least thought any thing to his disadvantage. He was demanded why, upon the report that ran up and down, that *Democrates* knew all the Conspiracy, he had told him, that he was unjustly suspected, except he had always apprehended him, or had heard that he should be accused by him. They added
 I
 also,

also, that if he was not guilty, he should not have made such a discourse, and that whether either he had suspected him, or had really told him that he was a Criminal, or that he pretended he had heard it, there was still an equal ground to doubt his Innocence, since if that was true which was told to *Democritus*, that he was guilty, of necessity there was a report of it, and likewise some proof of his crime, and if it was not, in all probability he only came to find him, and to endeavour to know cunningly of him, if it were true or not, that he was acquainted with all the conspiracy, where by the better to order his affairs *sextianus* answered, that nothing of all this was true, and that if he had been to wait upon *Democritus* to hold such a discourse with him, he should not have dared to acquaint him, as he had done, for

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he should have reprimanded upon him, and that since he had said nothing of it all the time he lived, whilst it was supposed that he had said those things to him, which very likely would have ruined him, and that he had not so much as spoke of them when he was dying, it was very easie to see that it was a meer falsity that was imputed to him. He added that it was no wonder if *Alexander* did seek to take away his life, for having put into the hands of the King the letter that *Democritus* writ to him, that he had done things much more considerable to secure the reputation of his friend, and that since he had rendered himself guilty for his sake, though he was innocent, he might very easily be induced to tell a lye to be revenged of a person who had acted against him, who was not able to bear his crime without

horror, and who likewise could not refrain showing the proofs he had of it.

Never were persons seen in a greater perplexity and confusion than were the King and Prince *Theomedes*, after they had heard the answer that *Sestianes* made, they were clearly of opinion that he might justly be suspected, but they did not see which way he could be convicted, and as all probabilities signifie nothing without positive proofs, and that it is a most unjust thing to condemn a person upon a bare suspicion, they could not tell how in the world to get out of this trouble that *Sestianes* put them into by his confidence, and undaunted resolution. 'What, said Prince *Theomedes*, must I confound the Innocent with the guilty, believe the most generous of all men are the most base, and the most per-
fidious

‘fidious; and that the most perfidious & base are the most generous? must I think *Anaxander* to be an Imposter? and must I think *Sebastianes* a wicked and perfidious wretch that has determined my death? he, who, to serve me, declared against his designed Son in Law? and must I, in a word, by a cruel necessity do an injury to the memory of *Democrates*, and doubt his Innocence, who all his life was never known to be guilty of an action unworthy an honourable person? But what, said he again presently, must I be always in fear? daily exposed to danger, and wait till he, whose life I dare not yet take away, come and run me through? Yes, I ought always to be exposed to danger and not fear the fury of those who aim at my life; fear is unworthy of a Prince, and much more of a

Generous man: Princes ought not to be too careful to secure themselves from the danger that threatens them, their courage and their virtue ought to be their guard, and to answer for what befalls them, and that which is looked upon as foresight in others, will in them be counted baseness and Cowardice.

Prince Theomedes, after he had a pretty while abandoned himself to his inquietude, began to hearken to those sentiments which generosity usually inspires into persons of his Rank and Quality, and went to demand of the King, that the most Criminal of all men might be set at liberty, when word was brought that one of the five hundred prisoners, who had been taken in the late conspiracy, where there were ten thousand that rose up against all the Royall house, accused *Seftianes* of the Crime

Crime, which *Democrates* had charged him with as he was dying. This undaunted Criminal, who was ignorant who he should be, said as soon as ever he heard of it, that this fellow was some cheat and impostor, that he did unjustly accuse him, and that he would make him to confess the contrary, and deny all he had said. Whereupon *Cleobis* (for so was that prisoner called) was brought before him; but he was greatly surprized when he saw that it was one of those who had been of the conspiracy with him, and that it was the same person who we were mentioning before, was missing, and for whom he was so much concerned since that he knew not what was become of him, and also that it was him of all the Number whom he most suspected. The sight of him had even almost made him change

his countenance, and his emotion went very near to discover what he had always concealed with so favourable a success. Yet notwithstanding, his confidence having immediately banished the fear that had begun to seize upon his heart, he looked upon Cleobas with an air full of fierceness and a contempting scorn mixt together, and said with a disdainful smile; 'though in the condition I am in at present, I might fear all things from my Enemies, and that the imposture, which may justly be termed, the innocents executioner, makes use of all the most cruel and artificioys ways of malice to take away my life, yet it is sufficient to scatter my fear, that it is only *Cleobas* who presents himself, and is the man that accuses me. I do not believe the King nor the Prince *Thomander* will easily give any credit

"credit to him: for any one may
 "very well think, that if I had
 "conspired, I should not have dis-
 "covered the secret to a man so
 "much to be mistrusted, and it is
 "very apparent that he does not
 "now accuse me, but only to pro-
 "long his life, and by this artifice
 "to hope, that Prince *Theomedes*,
 "thinking himself greatly obliged
 "to him, will demand his pardon
 "of the King: I have been assured
 "by some persons of my acquaint-
 "ance, that my Enemies, and the
 "Relations of *Democrates*, has
 "promised to get his crime par-
 "doned, provided he would say
 "that which he had been so hardy
 "to utter against me, and which
 "he still neither durst, nor can
 "maintain. But though all this
 "should not be true, pursued he,
 "it is very well known that he
 "has formerly been my greatest
 "Enemy, and that he was forced

to seek my friendship. All these
circumstances do discover, that
his former hatred had not now
been awakened, but that he
saw he had a most convenient
opportunity for it ; nor that he
had accused me, but either from
the prospect he had thereby to
obtain his pardon, or from the
satisfaction he should have to see
me perish with him ; and that
there ought not to be any credit
given to such a person, whom
so many several reasons do in-
duce to accuse an innocent.

If before that Cleobis had accu-
sed *Sestianus*, the King and Prince
Theomede's perplexity was great,
his discourse of that subtil and
ingenious Politician gave a great
accession to it, and he had still
so much good fortune, that he
made use of almost things which
were most likely to ruin him, to
confound others, and cast them

into a far greater trouble than that with which his breast was agitated; but at last that good fortune grew weary, of accompanying so perfidious a wretch; and Heaven, which was resolved to leave him no longer unpunished, now made a truth to be known which had so long been kept secret, which had given confusion to so many persons, and which untill then, could never be discovered, whatever ways they had made use of, and notwithstanding all they had done to finde it out. But yet this wicked man had the happiness not to betray himself, and still stood it out with a great deal of wit and bravery, as long as it was possible for him. He did not put fortune to the blush for the good services she had done him, but he showed that his boldness, his constancy, and his wit did equal his crimes, and possibly
he

he might yet have defended himself longer, if that some of the conspirators, whom *Cleobis* nam'd, had not fled for it, and if the others had not been taken prisoners, discovered all the particularities, maintained to *Sestianus's* face that he was guilty, and had not by convincing proofs, and such as were impossible to be doubted of, deprived him of all the means of defending himself any longer.

They asked *Cleobis*, to be more clearly satisfied in all things, why he, (who had told *Roligastes*, that he would discover all things to him, and who was dead before he saw him,) had said, that he believed *Democritus* was of the conspiracy. *Cleobis* answered, that they had all thought so, for he being so near marrying the daughter of *Sestianus*, they were fully perswaded that he had com-
municated

communicated his design to him, but it seems that time had discovered to them the contrary.

The perfidious *Sestianes*, seeing himself convicted, yet was not at all the more alarmed at it, nor did he show any actions that betray'd the constancy he had always testify'd, he confest all without changing his countenance, and spoke with as much assurance, as if his judges had been the Criminals, and he their Judge. 'Yes, said he to them, 'since I cannot tell how any longer to defend my self, I acknowledge I did conspire against Prince *Theomedes*, and the ill Offices he did me at Court, together with the displeasure I received in that he had given to one of his creatures a place which the King intended to bestow on me, and which he had even promised me, did make me hatch

hatch the design of taking away
his life, and for that purpose I
elected such persons as had as in-
different a kindness for him as
my self, and who had as great
reason to complain of him; and
if you examine well all those of
the confederacy, added he, you
will finde that the greatest num-
ber of them are those that live
near his lands and dominions,
and whom he has by his un-
just tyranny, obliged to have
an invincible hatred for him,
and to study all ways ima-
ginable how to compass his
death. After this confession
you may imagine that *Demetrius*
was innocent, and that I
would not have destroy'd him
but for fear lest he should accuse
me in the thoughts I had, that
one of the confederators had dis-
covered all to him, and that it
was only for that he had been
suspected

‘ suspected of the crime that I was
‘ the Authour of. If *Democrates*,
‘ said I to my self, knows all, no-
‘ thing but the love he bears my
‘ daughter, will keep him from
‘ speaking & revealing my crime;
‘ but as there are several things
‘ that may stifle this love, that may
‘ make him repent of his silence,
‘ and at last hearken to his duty,
‘ when it shall counsel him to dis-
‘ cover and betray me, it is my
‘ best way to make him undergo
‘ the same fate, as I have designed
‘ for the Prince *Theomedes*, and to
‘ be only thinking now how I
‘ should effect it with the greatest
‘ safety. I was in this resolution,
‘ when a meer chance presented
‘ me with the means to bring it a-
‘ bout, more secret, and less peril-
‘ lous, then those were I had pro-
‘ posed to my self, and gave me
‘ an opportunity to execute part
‘ of what I had projected, and
‘ without

‘without any blood shed, to di-
‘vert the blow that seemed to
‘threaten me. The letter that De-
‘mocrates writ to *Anaxander* fell
‘into my hands, and I thought it
‘my prudentest course to put it
‘into those of the Kings, and that
‘this ill office I should do to the
‘unfortunate Innocent person
‘would prevent all manner of be-
‘lief of whatsoever he should say
‘against me. You have known
‘the success of it, but you are ig-
‘norant yet that the fear of being
‘discovered having taken a new
‘possession of my heart, and that
‘the desire which Ambition had
‘kindled in me, to see my Daugh-
‘ter married to *Aras*, who is, as
‘you know, both by his Estate,
‘and birth, much more consider-
‘able then *Democrates*, obliged
‘me to seek out fresh occasions of
‘destroying this latter Fortune,
‘which continued still favoura-
‘ble

ble to me, presented me with
 one less hazardous then the former. I knew that *Arcas* was cruelly persecuted by his jealousy, and that he could not indure my Daughter should conserve any tenderness for *Democrates*, I made use of this occasion to bring my design about, and told him, that he ought not to suffer a Rival to have half shares of a heart which ought to belong wholly to him. As there is need of but a little thing to stir up a jealous man, who does not doubt but that his Rival has too great an Interest in the favours of his Mistress, and whom *Arcas* his jealousy had councell'd before to call him to an account for it, he straight fought with *Democrates*, and in that duel met with the shameful success you have heard of, which being so fatal to his honour, he came to give me a
 I. relation

relation of his unhappiness, and
of the sensible disgrace that For-
tune had made him receive. I
knowing him then to be in a hu-
mour fit to undertake anything,
I told him it was such a shame
to suffer his Rival to live any
longer, and to have an object
that should daily represent to
him the affront his honour had
received, that without any more
delay he was resolv'd to put a pe-
riod to his days. A short time af-
ter he caus'd Demogrius to be as-
sassin'd by three persons whom
he had hired for that purpose, or
rather by three of those merce-
nary Assassins, who are daily
employed in such murders.
Now, continued he, after this
particular information, you
ought not to ask any thing fur-
ther of me, and I have told you
more than you would have
known had you only learnt that
relation

' I was the Author of *Democrates*
 ' his death; since that without my
 ' Counsel, ~~it is~~ possibly would
 ' never have assassinated him. This
 ' is, pursued he, a faithful account
 ' of all my crimes, and all the fa-
 ' vour I demand of you, if you can
 ' grant any to so great a Criminal
 ' as I am, is to hasten the day of my
 ' death, lest I should repent that I
 ' had committed them; and that
 ' the tormenting rigour of a long
 ' & cruel imprisonment should ap-
 ' pare my conscience, so that it would
 ' do my confutation, and make
 ' those who should be spectators
 ' at my Death, to think, that I
 ' was afraid of punishments; and
 ' that Death was terrible to me.
 ' I know very well, continued he,
 ' that I cannot hope for pardon;
 ' and as I would not desire to live
 ' after I had acknowledged my
 ' self a Criminal, I confess all my
 ' crimes, and even those whereof

‘I was not accused, that so the
 ‘horror you ought to have to
 ‘suffer so great a Criminal to live,
 ‘should oblige you to give a sud-
 ‘den determination of my death,
 ‘and as short a day for it.

Though *Sestianus* was long be-
 fore suspected, and even before
 his confession they ceased any
 longer to doubt of his crime, yet
 his discourse was very surprizing
 to those Judges, as well as it ac-
 quainted them with the Authour
 of our *Heroe's* Death. They
 caused him to be lockt up again,
 and went to inform the King and
 Prince *Theonides* of all that had pas-
 sed; and what *Sestianus* had told
 them. Their astonishment could
 not keep them from bestowing
 some sighs upon the Death of
Democrates, whose innocence
 thereby was fully known to them,
 and reflecting upon the generosi-
 ty of *Alexander*, whom the trou-
 ble

'ble and confusion in which they were, had till then kept them from esteeming as they ought to have done; Prince *Theomedes* cryed out, that he had never seen a person so generous, nor so faithfull a friend, and that he had reason to boast of his crime in the first Letter he had sent them, the misterious sence of which he so perfectly knew, and which he had reason to say *that as bad a Criminal as he declared himself to be, he hoped that posterity should not be able to reproach his honour; since that his crime was so glorious, and generous, that posterity ought to conserve the remembrance of it, to cause it to be admired by all those that should hear it.*

The King having understood, by the relation that was given him, what *Seftenes* had said, and heard of all the crimes he had charged himself with, and that

Abbas had caused *Demotrates* to be murdered, immediately ordered him to be arrested; but as he was of too illustrious a birth, and likewise had several Relations and Friends that held a very considerable rank at Court, he presently learnt all that had past there, and by a hasty flight had escaped the prison they had prepared for him, and some time after they heard that he was got into *France*. As for *Sestanes* he had what he desired, and was a little while after condemned to lose his head. Prince *Theomedes* would nevertheless have used his utmost interest to prevent that sentence against his life, if he had been only guilty against him; but there was so much perfidiousness in his crime, which came from a breast so black and wicked, that he was judged utterly unworthy to enjoy any favour, and that from a perfidious

perfidious and dangerous man
ought not to be permitted to live,
who knew how to dissemble with
so much art, and who was capable
of accomplishing whatsoever he
undertook, which could be no o-
ther, then such things as most
needs have most cruel and pern-
cious consequences.

This crafty and undaunted Cri-
minal satisfied at the expence of
his life the sentence that had been
given against him, and died as al-
most all of that Country are wont
to do, that is to say, with a con-
stancy worthy to be admired, and
so it was by a great number of
people, who spoke very advanta-
geously of his Criminal and ling-
erous carriage, and said, that he
had a wit capable of the most dis-
seult and hazardous enterpri-
ses. That which was the more re-
markable in this History, was
that

that *Democrates*, without thinking in the least of it, had himself laboured to revenge his death, before he died, and that Heaven had suffered *Cleobis* to be among the five hundred prisoners, whom that generous *Hero*s had helped to take, in the service of his King, without knowing that among them there was a person, who could remove the doubt they had of his Innocence, and discover the real guilty person, and who, in re-establishing his glory, could hinder posterity from making his memory odious, and in a word, who could revenge his death, by the blood of the most perfidious man in the world.

I think it is not necessary to relate what *Sebastiane* said, and did, between the condemnation of her Father, and his death, nor at that time that she heard of his death; for it is very well known

known than the power of grief makes one at first not to resent it, that the surprise it causes keeps one silent, and that the extream weakness it casts one into, takes away the sense. The violence of *Sestiana's* grief produced all these effects, and she could not resent, and know all the calamities that were befallen her altogether, untill the trouble and seizure were a little over, which gave her such fatal and sensible intelligences. But when she was a little come to her self, and in a condition of resenting the cruel assaults of her grief. O heavens! said she to her self, is it possible you should have resolved that I should endure so many miseries? is it possible that you should permit it, and can it be believed that a poor harmless maid should be destined to bear all

K

the

‘the rage of the most barbarous and pittiless fate ? Ah !
‘how did *Democrates* say to me,
‘when I spoke to him of the
‘crime which he was unjustly
‘accused of, that the guilty
‘person would cost me many
‘tears. Both the guilty and
‘the innocent do cost me so at
‘once ; I knew not the crime
‘of one, untill it was impossible
‘for me to prevent his destruction,
‘and I did not learn the
‘innocence of the other
‘untill after his Death. I did
‘not demand so much, nor
‘would I have known of my
‘Fathers crime, only have heard
‘of the innocence of *Democrates*,
‘but I would have known it,
‘that so I might have recompensed
‘it, and not have been
‘obliged only to pour out tears.
‘Ah ! too sensible loss of a
‘dear and faithfull Lover, in
‘to

to what a sad condition do
 'you reduce me? Ah! *Demo-*
 'crates, how will thy Death
 'cost me tears? ah! too blind
 'Father, what have you done?
 'ah! but what, pursued she,
 'am I sensible of what I do?
 'I more bewail a Lover than a
 'Father; yes, it is true, I do
 'bewail him, and that without
 'shocking either reason, or du-
 'ty, or virtue; and though I
 'ought to bewail them both,
 'yet fate will have it, that he
 'who should be the dearest to
 'me, should be the least be-
 'wailed. Ah! wherefore too
 'scrupulous Lover, did you not
 'discover your secret to me, I
 'should have known your in-
 'nocence, and would have mar-
 'ryed you before my Father
 'had forbid it; but you ima-
 'gined, that I would not have
 'believed your discourses, and
 'you

‘you would not put any thing
‘to the hazard. You resolved
‘to be prudent, but your pru-
‘dence, which was almost fa-
‘tal to you, has not in this oc-
‘casion been more favourable
‘then formerly. It is true it
‘has spared me many displea-
‘sures, which possibly would
‘not have been so cruel to me,
‘and which perhaps I might
‘have now forgot, and I ac-
‘knowledge this service after
‘thy death. But replied she
‘immediately, ought I to count
‘that a Service, which makes
‘me now to weep, and which
‘has caused thy death, and like-
‘wise that of my Fathers? yes,
‘continued she, it was one,
‘but time has made it fatal, our
‘common unhappiness has poi-
‘soned it; and prudence, which
‘promises, and which affords o-
‘thers so much good fortune
‘will

'will give us only causes of af-
 'flicting our selves, and after it
 'did make thee lose the favour
 'of thy Prince, kept thee from
 'making any further declarati-
 'on of thy flame to me, when
 'thou mightest have married
 'me, to have made me doubt
 'your Innocence, to have be-
 'trayed you in all things, and
 'to have rendered all your
 'actions fatal to you, and at
 'last to have cost you your life,
 'that if it had not hindered you
 'from being the death of ~~me~~,
 'that inhuman Rival had not
 'made you be assassinated. It
 'is impossible for life to be any
 'longer pleasing to me, after
 'the loss of so faithful a Lo-
 'ver, and it cannot but be hate-
 'ful to me after the death of
 'a Father who has lost his
 'head upon a Scaffold; where-
 'fore in Honour and Love I
 ought

'ought to be so much the
'more desirous to die, since it
'is only that which can put
'an end to all my cruel tor-
'ments, with which my Soul
'will be overwhelmed as long
'as I have a day to live.

The sorrow of this fair and
generous afflicted Lady could
not possibly meet with any di-
minution, time which for the
most part wears out other griefs,
how cruel so ever, could doe
nothing upon hers, till at last
she met with what she so much
desired, which was so violent
a Feavour, that in a few days
it put an end to all her trou-
bles, as it did to her life.

Five or six months after all
these bloody and Tragical ad-
ventures, they were informed
that *Alexander* had revenged
the

the death of his friend, for having met *Arcas* in *France*, he obliged him to draw, in which duell he only received a slight wound from him, but came off a conqueror, by laying his Enemy dead at his feet,

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